

T U C S O N



THE PEOPLE AND THE PLACE ■ HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 1990 CENSUS



THE PEOPLE AND THE PLACE ■ HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 1990 CENSUS

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

George Miller, Mayor
Michael Haggerty, Vice Mayor
Steve Leal
Janet Marcus
Molly McKasson
Roger M. Sedlmayr
Bruce Wheeler

CITY MANAGER

Ruben D. Suarez

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

William D. Vasko, Director
John F. Siry, Assistant Director
David Taylor, Planning Program Coordinator
Joyce M. Havens, Principal Planner
Barbara Macri, Senior Planner
Anna Sanchez, Planning Librarian
Kent Ahrens, Intern



DECEMBER 1992

CITY OF TUCSON

INTRODUCTION	3
HOW TUCSON HAS GROWN	6
ABOUT THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE HERE	9
THE PLACE WE CALL HOME	14
SCHOOL DAYS, SCHOOL DAYS	21
IT'S OFF TO WORK WE GO	24
GETTING AROUND TOWN	31
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS	34

This document is published only in English.

Spanish speaking citizens can call the City Planning Department to obtain assistance in translating this document.

Please call 791-4505 or visit the City Planning Department on the third floor of City Hall at 255 West Alameda Street.

Este documento se publica en inglés solamente. Los ciudadanos de habla hispana pueden llamar al Departamento de planificación Municipal de Tucson para pedir ayuda en la traducción de este documento.

Favor de hablar al 791-4505, o pase al Departamento de Planificación Municipal en el tercer piso del ayuntamiento municipal, 255 oeste de la calle Alameda.

OVERVIEW OF CENSUS INFORMATION

This booklet contains highlights about the City of Tucson from the 1990 Census of Population and Housing and related resources. The data was compiled for the interest of Tucson's citizens and as background material for updating the Land Use Element of the City's Comprehensive General Plan.

The United States Census Bureau has enumerated the country's population each decade since 1790. The census is mandated by the Constitution in order to apportion the seats in the House of Representatives according to the population of the states. However, census data also provides a wealth of information for other purposes. The latest census was conducted in April, 1990, and the results comprise the nation's Twenty-first Decennial Census.

The United States Census also serves a broader purpose. We are a free and mobile people. Significant and rapid changes are occurring in our Nation and in this community. We must have facts so we can better judge what to do and how to do it. The questions to which each of us has responded were designed in the preceding decade in order to strike a balance between the individual's right to privacy and our Nation's need for self understanding. ■



*The United States
Census Bureau
has counted
the country's
population each
decade since 1790.*

■ To paraphrase President Abraham Lincoln: If we are to know where we are going, we must know where we have been, who we are, and the ways in which we are changing.

■ In 1863, President Lincoln created Arizona by dividing the Territory of New Mexico. The first Arizona Territory Census of 1864 counted 1,568 residents in Tucson.

INTRODUCTION

There are a few points that should be kept in mind when reviewing the information in this booklet:

- While many of the changes during the decade may appear to be significant, it is important to remember that ten years is a relatively brief period in the life of this City.
- Some changes, such as the increase of working women, may indicate a continuation of a long-term trend which began several decades earlier. Others may reflect short-term events, such as increased employment in the armed forces.
- Many local changes echo national trends and issues, such as the evolution of smaller families and the increasing age of the population.
- Census data reflects a point in time and can be used to present a snapshot of Tucson in April, 1990. Most of the data in this booklet was tabulated by the federal government and provided to cities and states in late spring, 1992. Many of the 1990 statistics may have already changed as of the date of this publication.

■ “Tucson” means more than the corporate limits of the City to many people. Most of the data in this booklet applies to the area within the City of Tucson incorporated boundaries. Where it is appropriate, information has been provided for all residents of Pima County, 96 percent of whom are in the Tucson metropolitan area.

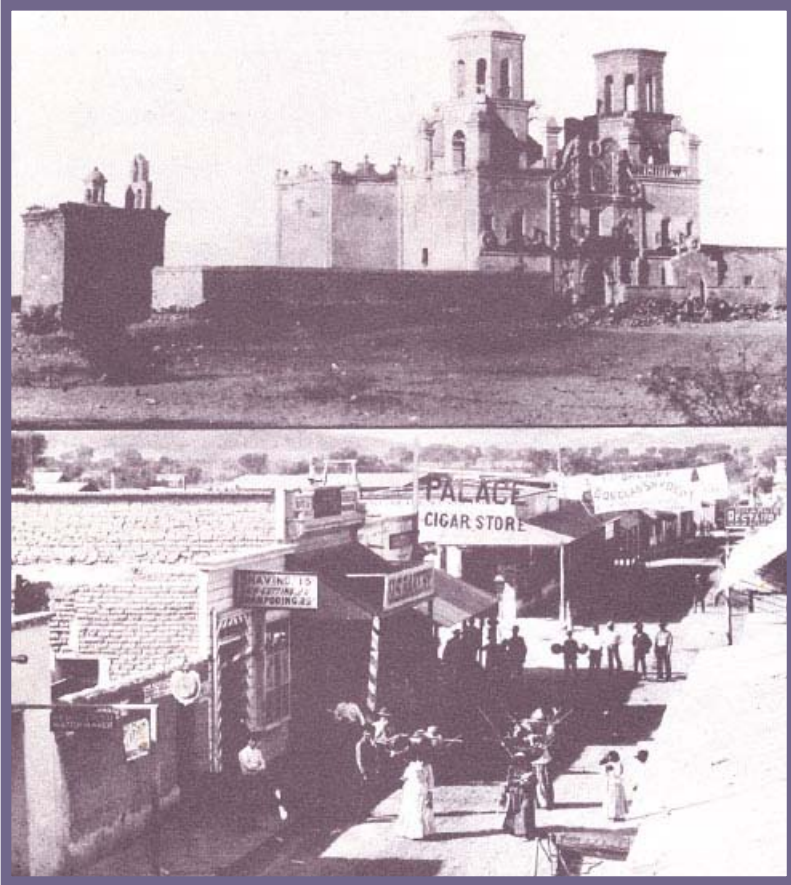
■ Finally, the area of the City of Tucson increased by over 50 percent during the past decade through the annexation of over 57 square miles which were in unincorporated Pima County during the 1980 Census. Therefore, some changes recorded in the 1990 City of Tucson data reflect this geographic shift from one jurisdiction to another.

For several topics, census data from the nation, Pima County, and from a few other sunbelt cities has been included to provide a perspective for the City of Tucson data. These cities -- Phoenix, Arizona; Albuquerque, New Mexico; San Antonio, Texas; and Las Vegas, Nevada -- were selected because of some similarity to Tucson and availability of data. ■



■ The purpose of this booklet is to present a broad overview of 1990 Census highlights with an emphasis on changes from the 1980 Census information.

■ More extensive census data is available from the Planning Department Library, First Floor, City Hall, 255 W. Alameda Street. Phone: 791-4234.



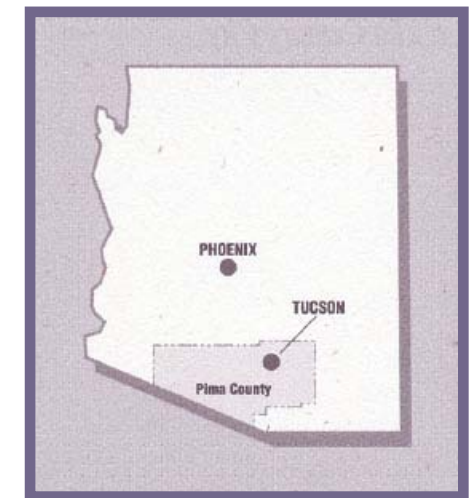
A LONG HISTORY OF MANY CULTURES

The Tucson community, unique in its physical setting and natural resources, has experienced a progression of human occupations over many centuries.

Archaeological evidence has been found indicating that nomadic hunters inhabited the Tucson area 12,000 years ago. However, it was not until about 100 A.D. that Tucson and its environs became the site of large, more permanent settlements which were located along the Santa Cruz River and its tributaries.

For the next 1,200 years, this Hohokam culture thrived in the region until it suddenly declined during the fourteenth century to be replaced by probable Hohokam descendants -- the Pimas and Tohono O'odham. Eventually, these Native American cultures were joined by new arrivals, particularly the Spanish, Mexican, and American colonists who have occupied the region during the past three centuries. More than 300 years after its founding as a mission site and outpost for Spain, the Old Pueblo retains much of its original vitality and has increased in cultural richness.

The City of Tucson, incorporated in 1877 with a population of about 7,000, has become the second largest city in the State of Arizona. Most of Tucson's newcomers in the 1980-1990 decade were from elsewhere in Arizona, followed by relocations from California, Illinois, Texas, Michigan, and New York. Proximity to Mexico and the presence of the University of Arizona and Davis-Monthan Air Force Base are major factors in Tucson's continuing attraction to residents from other countries, strengthening the international flavor of this community. ■

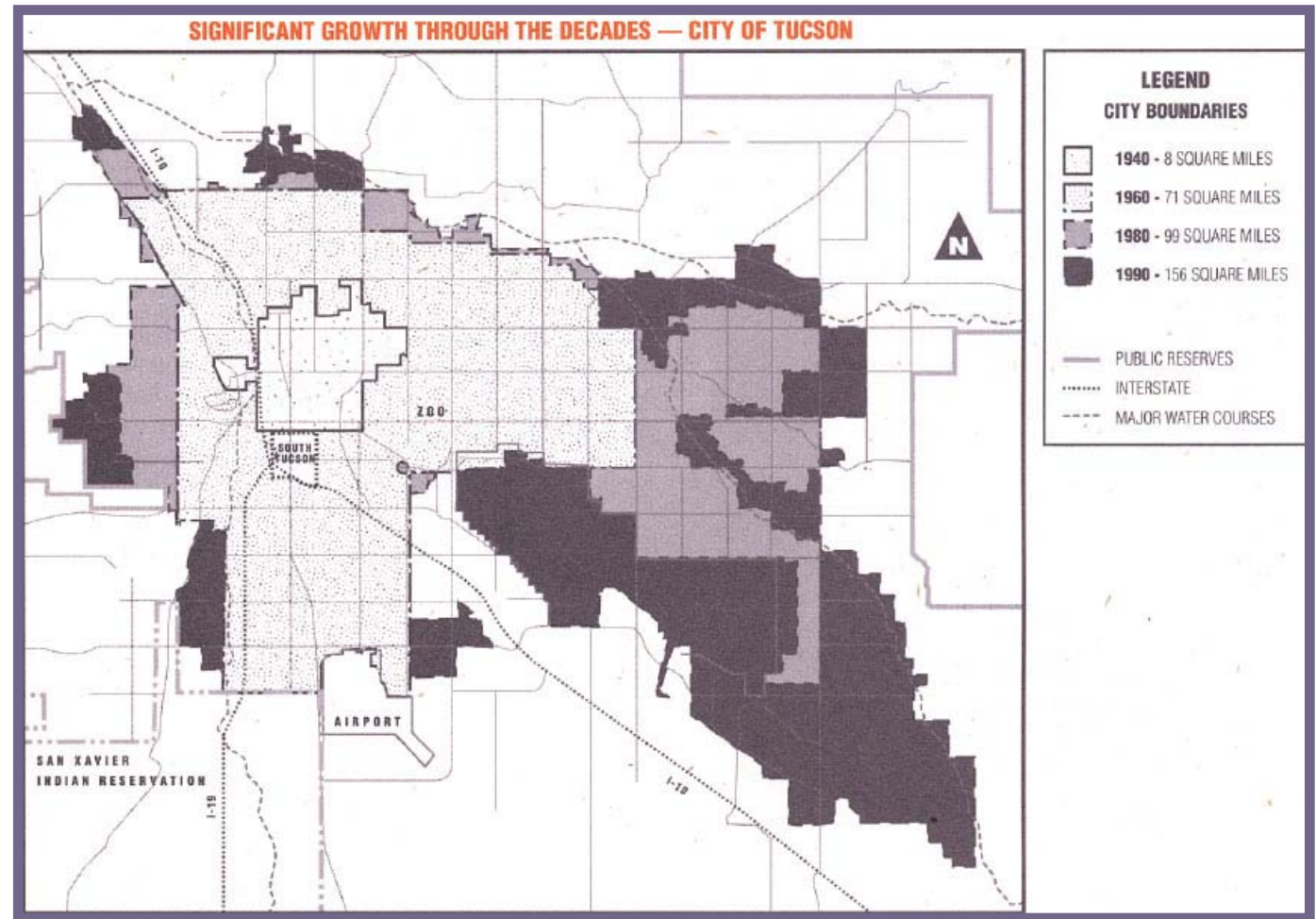


■ Permanent settlements were built along the Santa Cruz River nearly 2000 years ago.

■ Tucson continues to grow and celebrate the diverse cultural influences that make our region distinctive.

HOW TUCSON HAS GROWN

*While many assess Tucson
as a small, friendly town --
the "Old Pueblo." --
It is also an international,
metropolitan center of culture,
science, art and industry
...the Gateway to Mexico
...a 21st Century City.*



- The size of a city can be measured both by the area within its boundaries and by population. Between 1980 and 1990, Tucson expanded in both respects, continuing its steady growth of the past 50 years.

- The City of Tucson added 57 square miles to its incorporated area during the last decade, a 58% increase.
- Tucson was the 28th largest U.S. city in land area in 1990, larger than Denver, Philadelphia and Atlanta.

POPULATION AND PROJECTIONS -- PIMA COUNTY

	1940	1960	1980	1990	PROJECTIONS	
					2000	2010
CITY OF TUCSON						
TOTAL	35,752	212,892	330,537	405,390	446,593*	482,372*
% INCREASE		495%	55%	23%	10%	8%
PIMA COUNTY						
TOTAL	72,838	265,660	531,443	666,880	826,931	1,000,100
% INCREASE		265%	100%	25%	24%	21%

* Assumes no annexation. However, continuing the current 60.8 percent ratio of City to County population, the projection for the year 2000 is 502,683 and for 2010 is 607,951.

LATEST COUNT: 405,390 FOLKS AND MORE EXPECTED

Population increase in Tucson has been steady and significant over the last half century, keeping pace with other sunbelt cities.

Population projections indicate that the City of Tucson is expected to grow from a population of 405,390 to 482,372 by 2010, assuming that no annexations occur. As other jurisdictions and areas of the county also experience population increases, the City could become an increasingly smaller proportion of the total regional population. However, a continuation of the current ratio of City to County population would result in a City population of 607,951 by 2010. ■

*As the county grows
to one million by 2010,
annexation by the City
could continue the current
population ratio of
60% City residents.*

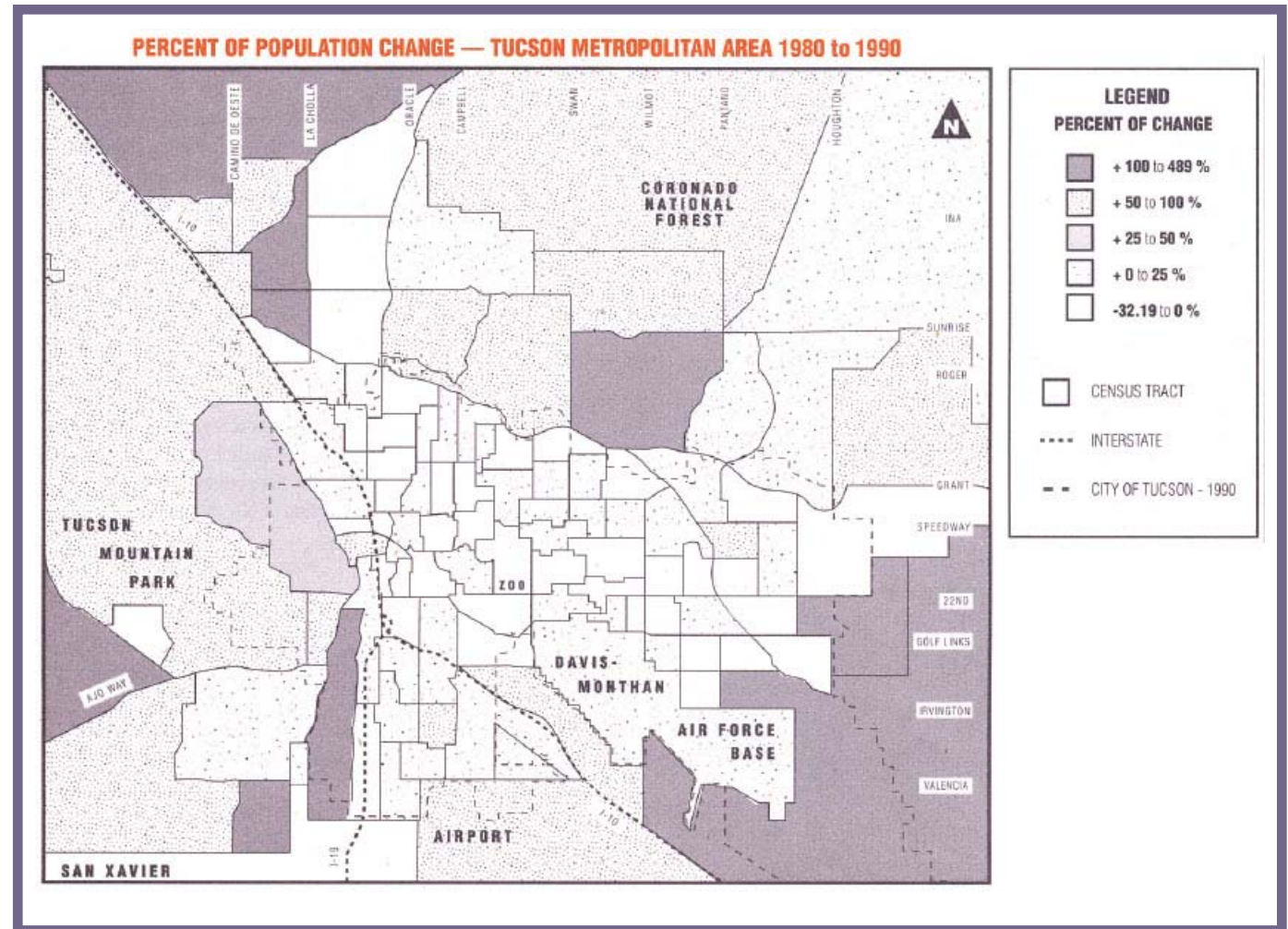
■ Tucson's population grew by 23 percent in the past decade, moving from the 45th largest city in the United States in 1980 to the 33rd largest in 1990.

■ A comparison of Tucson's population growth with a few other sunbelt cities over the decade indicates that it outpaced Albuquerque (16 percent) and San Antonio (19 percent), and was similar to Phoenix (25 percent).

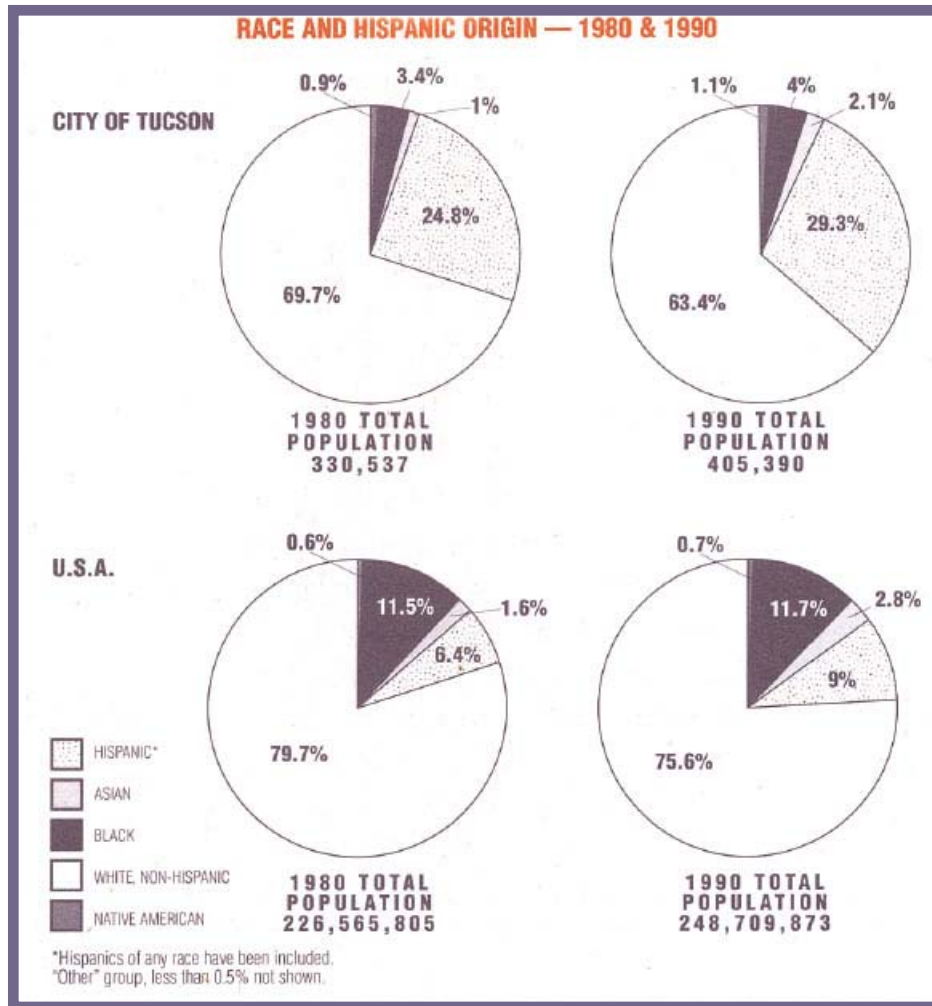
HOW TUCSON HAS GROWN

Cities are always in a state of change. As new businesses and residents arrive, and others leave or relocate, development occurs, and a “new” city evolves.

The 1980-1990 population growth in Tucson was not distributed evenly throughout the area; in fact, some areas lost population.



- The edges of the urban area experienced the greatest population increases in the past ten years.
- Population decreases occurred in many older subdivisions in the central city as family size decreased when children left home.
- The greatest metropolitan population gains in the next decade are expected to be outside of current City of Tucson boundaries.



AN INCREASINGLY DIVERSE CULTURAL MIX

Tucson has long been a city with a great diversity of races and cultures. While White, non-Hispanics still predominate (about 63 percent, compared to 80 percent nationally), the minority population has increased during the past decade. Hispanics are Tucson's largest minority group, not surprising for a community with historic roots in New Spain and the Republic of Mexico. Tucson's Hispanic population was 29 percent, compared with about 9 percent for the Nation, 35 percent for Albuquerque, and 55 percent for San Antonio. The City's Hispanic proportion will probably continue to increase in the years to come, due to continued immigration and the presence of larger, younger families in this group.

The recent high growth of Asians in Tucson is a new theme, and supplements the historically dominant Chinese population with citizens from Japan, the Philippines, Vietnam, and Thailand. Other cultures were also well represented in Tucson in 1990. Mexican was the most frequently reported ancestry, with 27 percent of the population. German ancestry represents 17 percent of the population. English and Irish ancestry were next highest, with 9 and 8 percent respectively. ■

*Tucson is an Ellis Island,
with newcomers from
around the world arriving daily,
bringing a diversity of traditions,
lifestyles and beliefs.*

- Tucson is becoming more culturally diverse, with minorities an increasing proportion of its population - 37 percent in 1990, compared with 24 percent for the nation.

- According to demographer Leon Bouvier, the United States will have a minority majority by the year 2060: no single cultural group will constitute more than half of the total population.

ABOUT THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE HERE

*Barring any revolutionary change
in immigration flows,
Tucson will gradually become older,
as will the Nation,
at least through the year 2030.
The care and support of an
ever more aged population
will become very central
to our needs.*

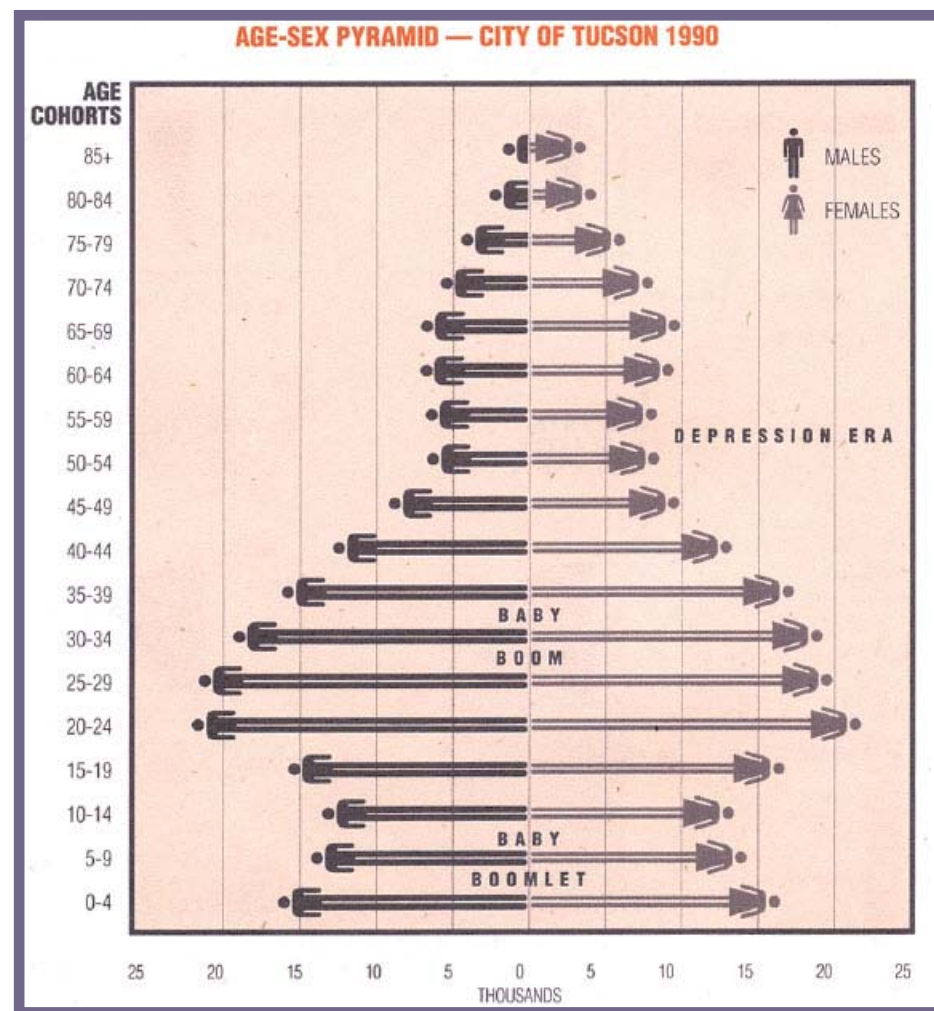
WE ARE GROWING OLDER...

The aging of the population is a national trend, primarily due to the impact of the “Baby Boom” generation - those born between 1946 and 1965 who are currently 27 to 46 years old. The Boomers represent about a third of the country’s population, the result of a high increase in the birth rate following World War II. The bulge in the middle of the chart below represents this group as they move upward through the age pyramid.

The narrowing of the pyramid just above the Baby Boomers represents the “Depression Babies,” a group born in the 1930s when much lower birth rates were recorded because of wide-spread societal disruptions.

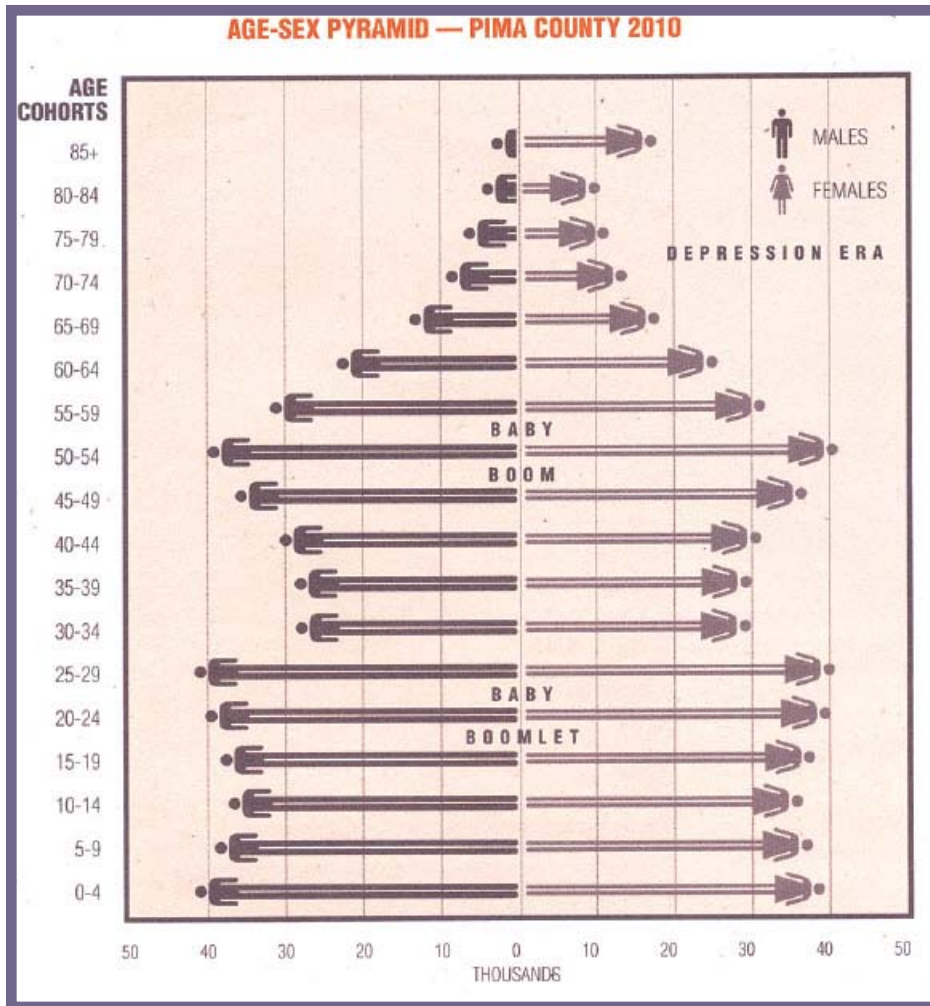
Following the Baby Boom years came a period of lower birth rates, sometimes called the “Baby Bust,” which can be seen as shorter bars for the 15 to 24 year olds on the pyramid. This Baby Bust generation temporarily eased the need for new public facilities created by the Boomers, such as schools.

However, children some Baby Boomers are now beginning to fill elementary classrooms which were partially empty a decade ago. This “Baby Boomlet,” is a temporary phenomenon, and the current growth of elementary age children will stabilize soon. ■



- The median age in Tucson in 1990 was 30.6 years, up from 29.4 in 1980, and below the national average of 32.9. In 2000, the median age for the United States is expected to be 36.

- The influence of the University of Arizona and Davis-Monthan Air Force Base is reflected in the high numbers of males aged 20-39 in Tucson.
- By 2010, 49 percent of Americans will be 40 or older.



...WITH MORE ELDERLY, ESPECIALLY WOMEN

The average age of the Tucson's population continues to increase, as the Baby Boomers grow older and more retirees are attracted to our community. In particular, the growth in numbers of females 85 years and older was significant in the last decade, both in Tucson and the Nation. The growing elderly population will create new challenges and needs in the decades to come.

Tucson's population over 65 years old increased by 33 percent during the decade and represents about 13 percent of the City's total population. National figures for this age group show increases of 22 percent between 1980 and 1990.

The growth in numbers of Tucson females 75 years and older during the decade was quite dramatic: from 9,727 to 13,818, an increase of 70 percent. By 2010, Pima County will have about 17,000 women in this age group. ■

The City will require more options for transitional housing, group homes and nursing facilities as we age. New forms of financial support for those living into their ninth and tenth decade may be needed as pensions are outlived.

■ More male children are born, but women outnumber men starting at about age forty and continuing thereafter.

■ Tucson women over 65 years old increased during the decade by 34 percent, outnumbering men in this age group by 3 to 2. Women were about 60 percent of the U.S. population over 65 years old in 1990.

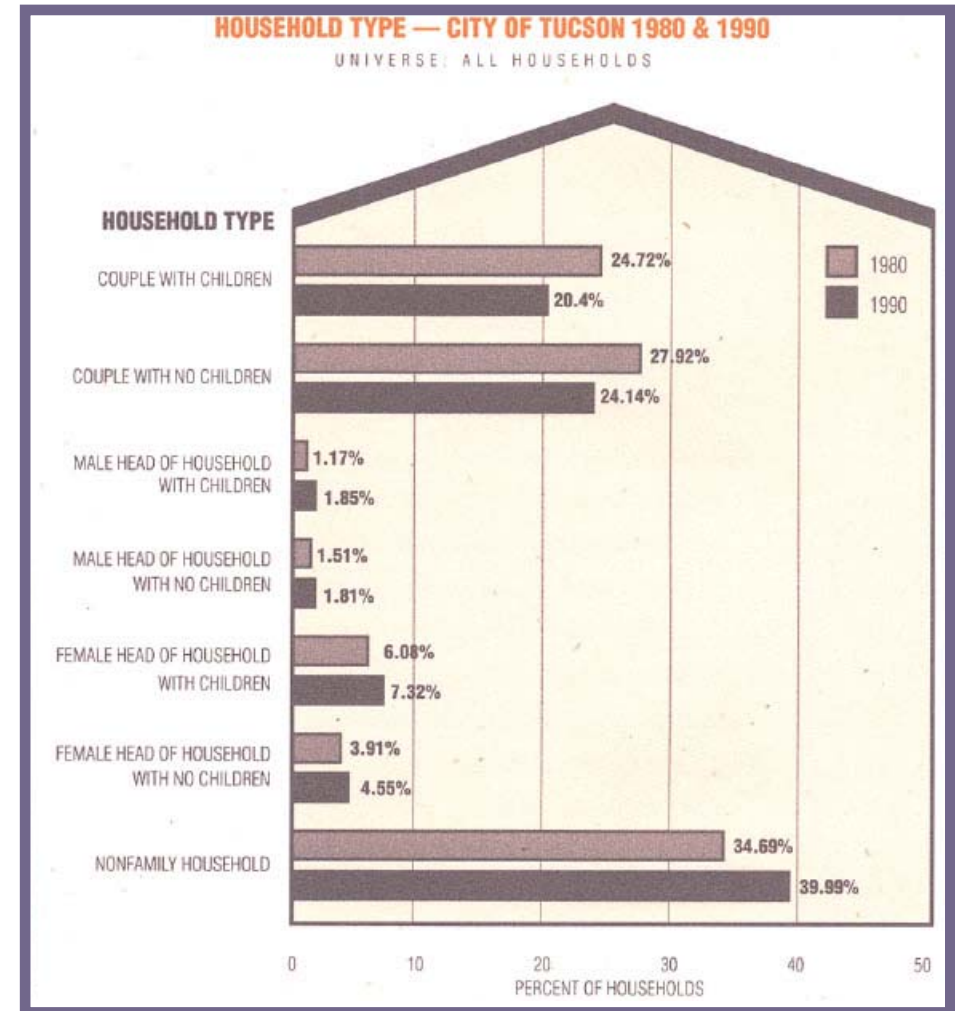
*New strategies will be needed
to match the realities
of our new households,
such as educational programs
which address the family needs
of both parents and children,
and child care services
at affordable cost.*

MORE HOUSEHOLDS, FEWER “TRADITIONAL” FAMILIES ...

Household composition in Tucson reflects the changing nature of families throughout the country. “Traditional” households, with Mom, Dad and children, have dropped from one-quarter of all Tucson households in 1980 to one-fifth in 1990, continuing a national trend which began in the 1950s. As a contrast, all other types of households have increased since the 1980 Census - couples with no children, male or female households with or without children, and nonfamily households.

The most outstanding percentage of growth - 105 percent - was in households of men (no wife present) with children, which doubled to 3,000 families. Households of women with children (no husband present), already a significant category in 1980, grew by 56 percent. Tucson had a total of 19,000 single parent families in 1990.

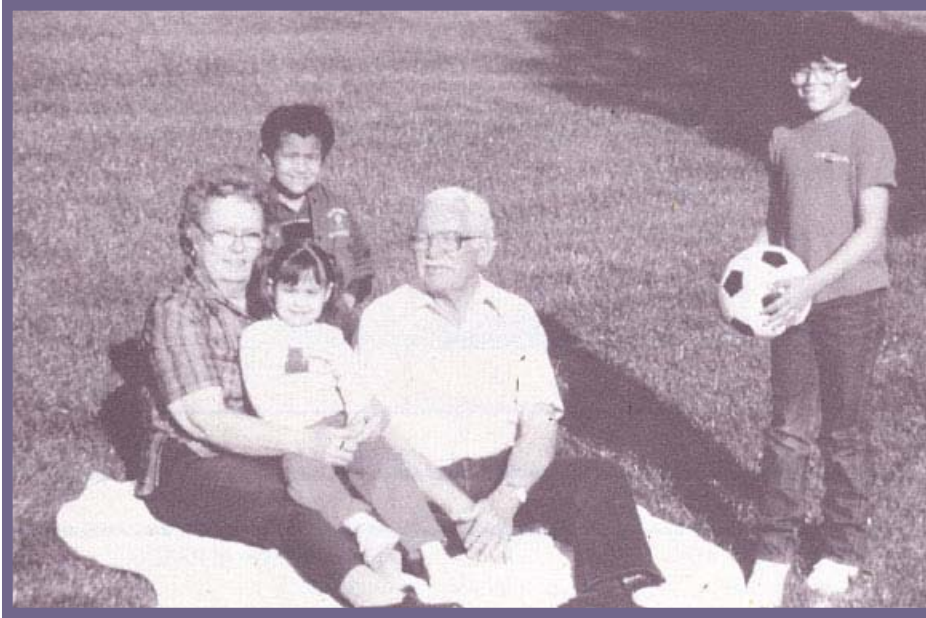
Another category showing considerable growth was the nonfamily (persons living alone or with non-relatives) household, with a 49 percent increase. One person households, reflecting a national trend of more and smaller households, displayed a similar increase with 51 percent growth. ■



■ Family households decreased from 65 to 60 percent of total Tucson households. By comparison, family households were 70 percent of all U.S. households, 65 percent of Albuquerque households, and only 42 percent of Las Vegas households.

■ One parent households increased by 60 percent, and represented 9 percent of all Tucson and U.S. households in 1990.

■ Seventy percent of Tucson's households had no children.



...AND SMALLER HOUSEHOLDS, SMALLER FAMILIES

A long time ago in 1790, the average American household had 5.8 persons. As recently as 1900, 4.8 persons was the average household size. Since that time, the numbers have steadily grown smaller.

The increase in single parent families and one person households in the decade continued the trend toward smaller family and household size. Tucson average household size decreased from 2.57 to 2.42 persons in the decade. Tucson figures are consistent with national trends.

Family size in Tucson decreased from 3.18 persons in 1980 to 3.10 in 1990. Nationally, the average family decreased from 3.29 persons to 3.17.

A substantial portion of Tucson's small households were comprised of residents over 65 years old, who have household patterns similar to the total population. While most--62 percent--lived in family households, 31 percent lived alone. Only a small percentage of those over 65 years resided in group quarters. ■

*Innovative forms of housing
coupled with support services
will allow a growing number
of elderly Tucsonans
to continue
to be independent.*

HOUSEHOLDS OF PERSONS OVER 65 YEARS OLD -- CITY OF TUCSON

	1980	1990	% H
TOTAL PERSONS OVER 65	38,523	51,198	+ 33%
IN FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS	23,241	31,675	+36%
IN NONFAMILY HOUSEHOLDS	13,665	17,437	+28%
LIVING ALONE	11,112	15,992	+30%
IN GROUP QUARTERS	1,617	2,086	+29%

■ About 4 percent of all Tucsonans over 65 lived in group quarters in 1990.

■ One person households accounted for 31 percent of all Tucson households, contrasted with 25 percent of all U.S. households.

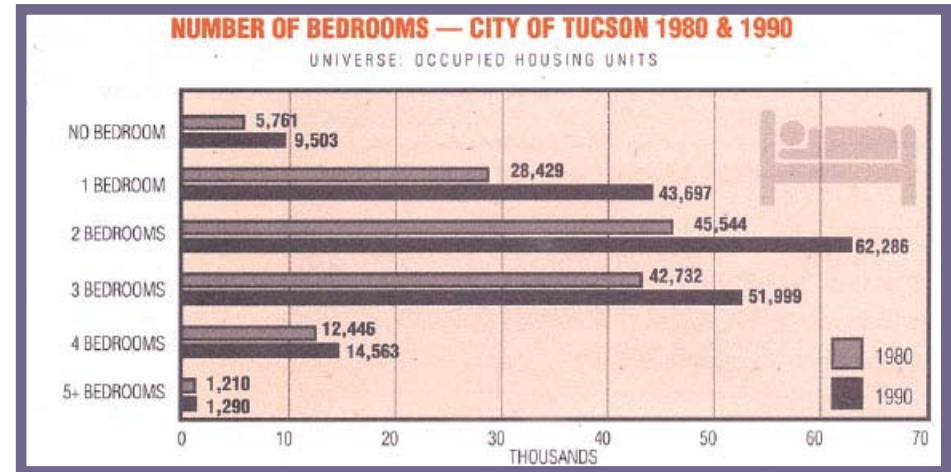
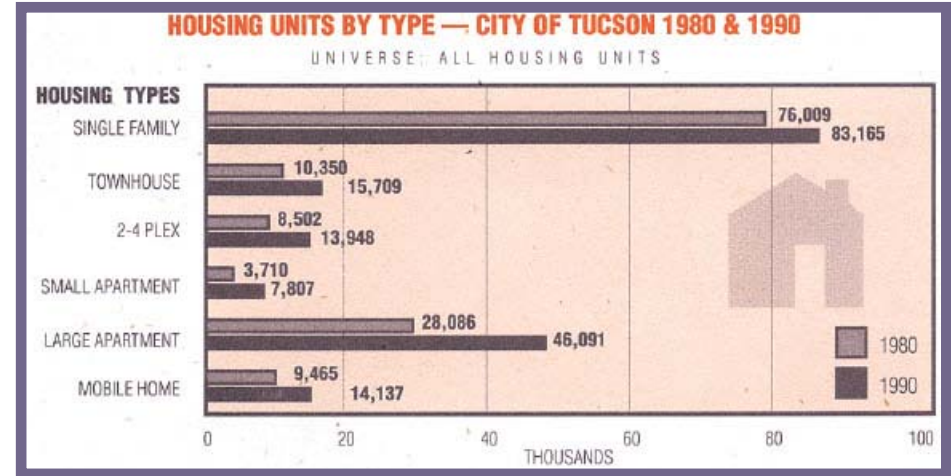
■ Most Tucsonans over 65 are living in family households.

*A continuing trend
toward smaller households
will increase the demand
for smaller housing units.*

MANY NEW, SMALLER HOUSING UNITS

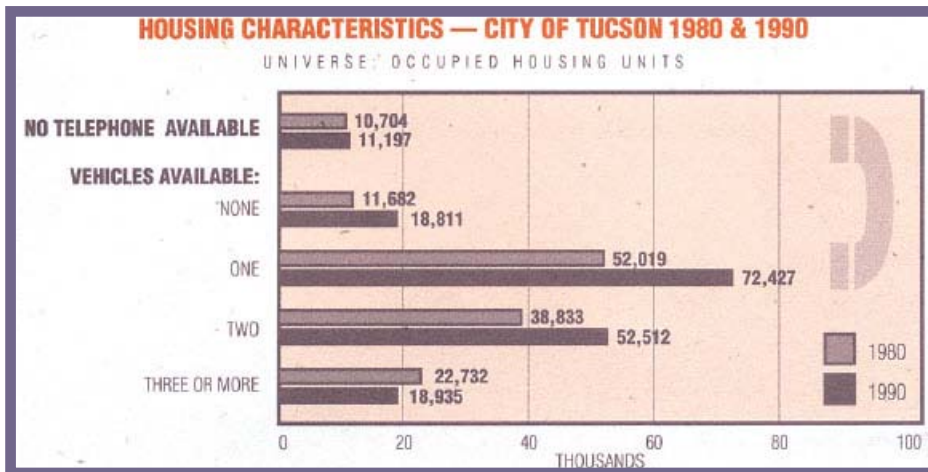
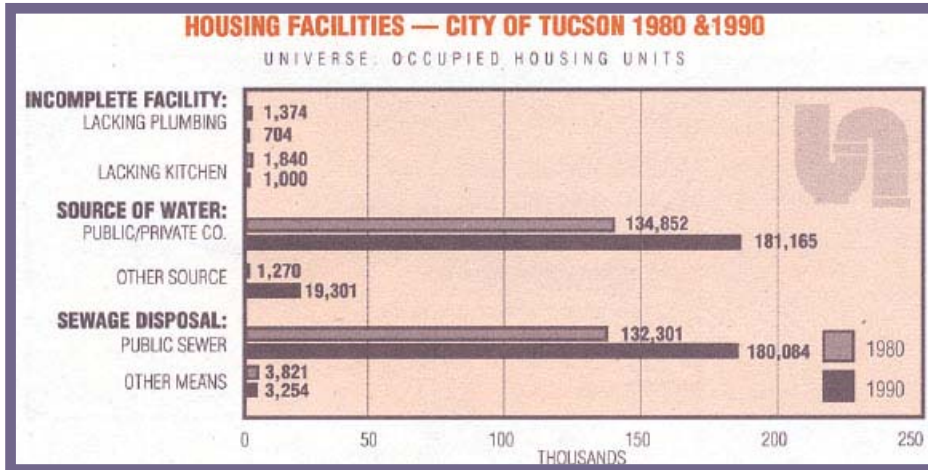
Changes in household size were reflected in Tucson's changing new housing patterns. Many apartments were built in the decade to satisfy the housing needs of many new, smaller households. Numbers of studio and one bedroom apartments increased by 65 and 54 percent respectively from 1980 to 1990, accounting for 40 percent of Tucson's new housing units.

Many of these new, small apartment units were in large complexes (ten or more units), which was the housing type experiencing the greatest growth during the decade -- 64 percent. All other housing types had significant increases except for single family detached units, which increased by about 9 percent. ■



■ The total number of housing units in Tucson grew from 137,249 to 183,338, a 34 percent increase.

■ Studio and one bedroom housing units represented 29 percent of Tucson's housing stock in 1990.



BETTER HOUSING CONDITIONS

Several factors are used by the Census Bureau to assess housing condition, including plumbing and kitchen facilities; source of water; and sewer connection. Housing condition improvement is indicated by a 50 percent reduction in the number of units lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities, now about 700 households. The City's housing stock has also experienced a reduction in water and sewer inadequacies.

Another measure of housing condition used by the Census Bureau is "crowded," defined as more than one person per room. This condition increased in Tucson in the decade. The bulk of this crowding occurred in renter households, where the number of units with crowded conditions doubled. Crowded conditions also increased nationally, for the first time since 1940.

Census questions include the availability of a telephone and an automobile as relevant to household isolation. Tucson experienced a 2 percent increase in households with no vehicle available to about 12 percent of all households, a factor which creates a greater dependence on public transit service. ■

Overall, Tucson's housing stock improved during the decade as substandard units were demolished or upgraded.

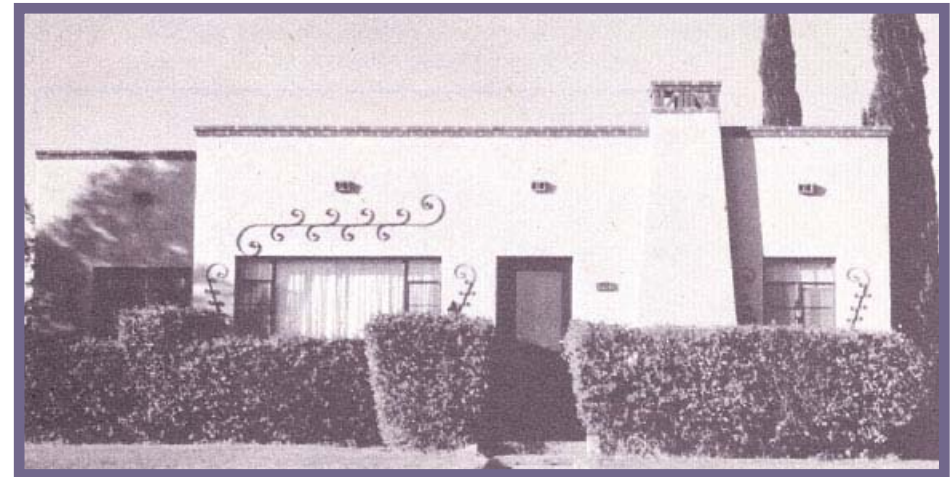
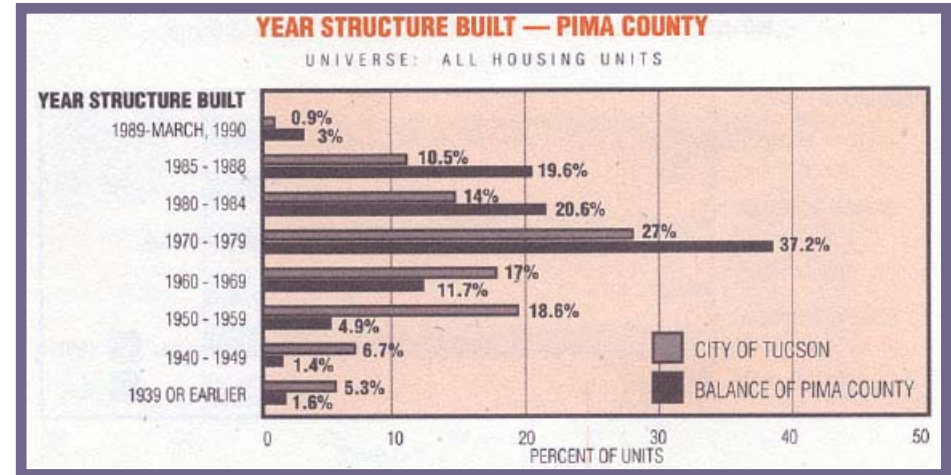
- One half of a percent of Tucson households are without plumbing or complete kitchens in 1990, compared with over 1 percent of U.S. households.
- "Crowded" describes about 7 percent of Tucson housing as compared to about 4 percent nationally.

- Almost 12 percent of Tucson households are without a vehicle available, the same percentage as the nation and San Antonio, and higher than Albuquerque's 7 percent.

While housing conditions have improved this decade, a significant portion of the City's housing inventory will require rehabilitation efforts in the next twenty years.

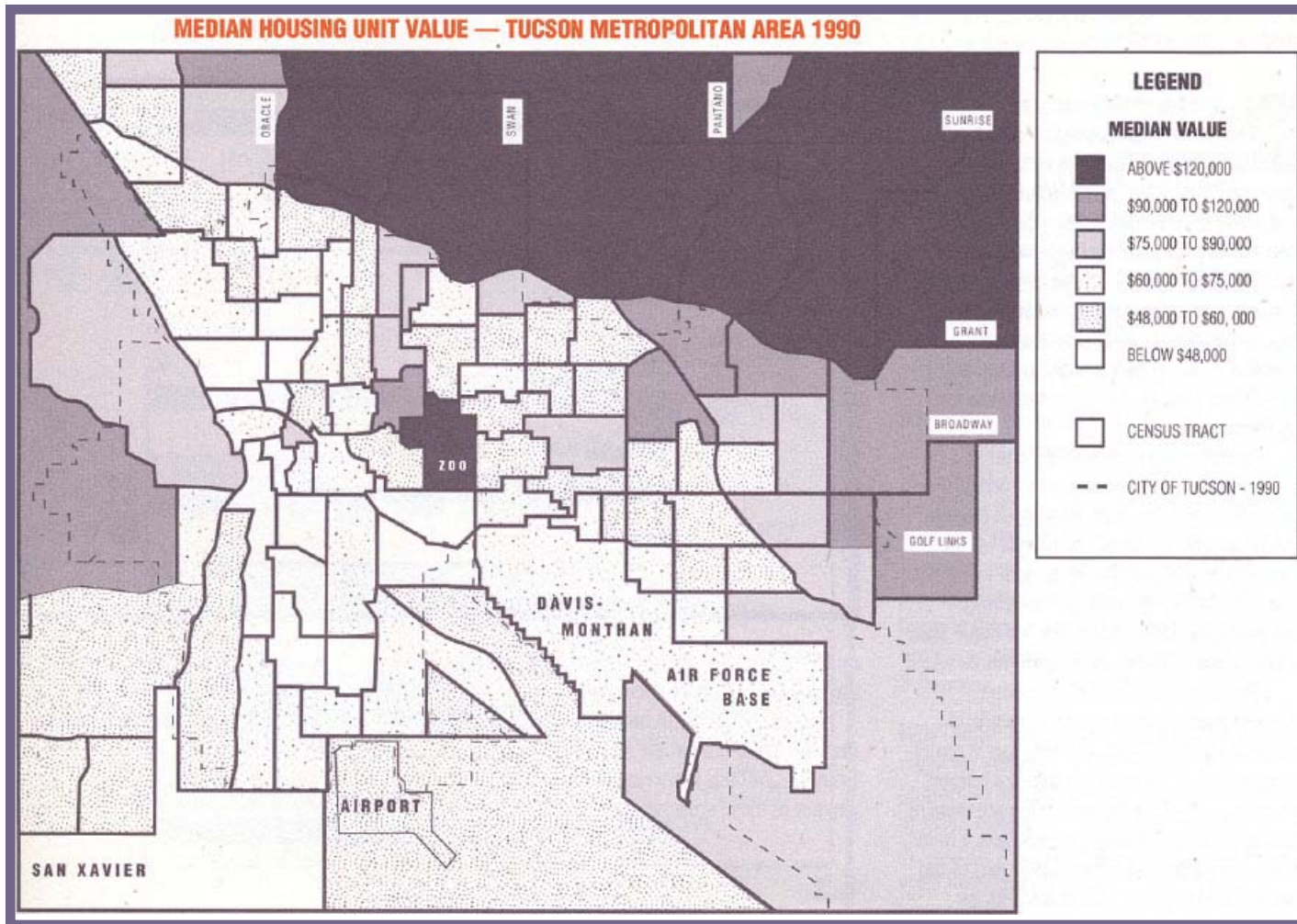
THE HOUSING STOCK IS AGING

As part of the post World War II boom, large numbers of houses were built in Tucson through the 1950s. In some cases, houses were constructed quickly to meet market demands, and do not meet today's building standards. In the future, some areas of the City may be facing major housing rehabilitation needs. ■



■ The median age of a housing unit in the City in 1990 was 19 years; in Pima County, it was 16 years.

■ One third of the housing units in Tucson were built before 1960.



RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY VALUES HAVE INCREASED

The median value of an owner-occupied house in Tucson rose from \$50,300 in 1980 to \$66,700 in 1990, up about 33 percent. By comparison, the median value of a home in Pima County rose from \$56,300 in 1980 to \$76,500 in 1990, up 36 percent.

Nationally, the median value of owner-occupied, single family houses increased from \$47,000 in 1980 to \$79,100 in 1990, an increase of 68.3 percent. By comparison, in Las Vegas the median 1990 housing value was \$89,200; in Albuquerque, \$85,900; and in San Antonio, \$49,100. ■

■ The median value of a home in Tucson was \$66,700 in 1990, compared with \$79,100 nationally.

■ In housing value, Tucson is a comparatively affordable city.

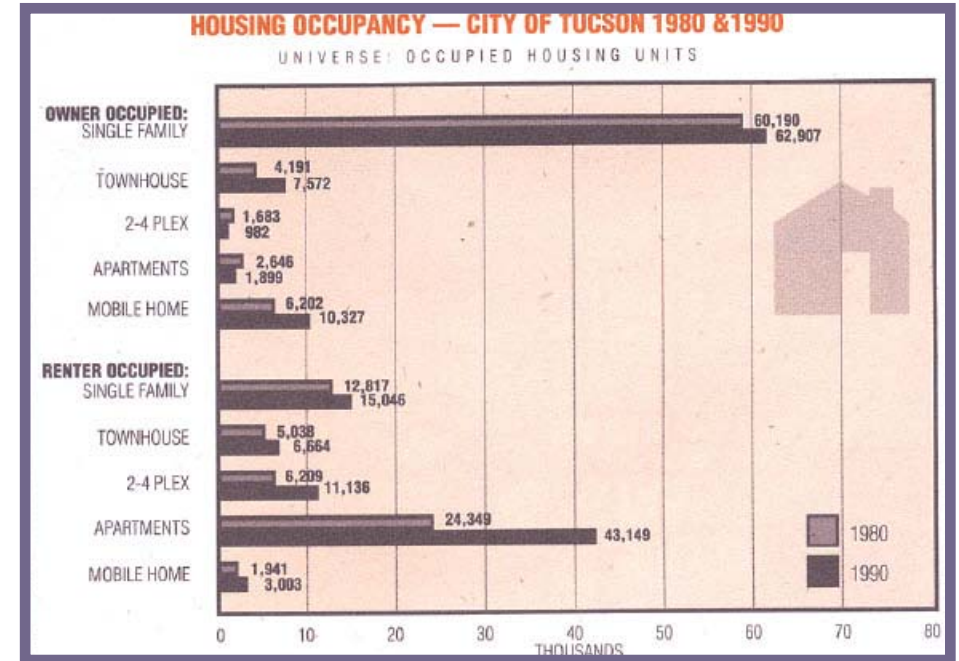
*University students,
military personnel,
seasonal visitors,
and our mobile society
may expand Tucson's
growing proportion of renters.*

NEARLY EQUAL NUMBERS OF OWNERS AND RENTERS

Home ownership was not always the norm in this country; only 44 percent of households were purchasing their homes in 1940. After World War II, however, there was a national push through federal programs to assist families in what has become the “American Dream”: home ownership complete with a wide variety of supplemental consumer goods. In 1980, home ownership peaked at about 65 percent, both in the nation and in Pima County; Tucson ownership was 60 percent.

Tucson's occupied housing units were almost evenly divided between owners and renters in 1990. The large number of renters is an outgrowth of national trends -- such as smaller household size -- as well as local factors including the presence of a large University and Davis-Monthan Air Force Base which exhibit high in- and out-migration rates.

The 12 percent increase in owner-occupied housing units over the decade is contrasted with a 57 percent increase in renter-occupied units. This may be due to a number of factors, including the increasing numbers of persons who cannot afford to purchase a home, seasonal residents who spend only part of the year in Tucson, federal tax incentives for multi-



family construction, and to some degree the transient nature of society today.

A total of 183,338 housing units were in the City at the time of the 1990 Census, up from 137,249 ten years earlier. Nearly 89 percent of these units were occupied,

leaving about 11 percent vacant, a figure which is tempered by the numbers of seasonal residents whose unit was deemed to be vacant during the census count. ■

■ Owners occupied just over 51 percent of Tucson's housing units in 1990, down from 60 percent in 1980. For the nation, owners occupied about 64 percent of the housing units, little changed from 1980.

■ Tucson renters have increased nearly four times as fast as homeowners.

MEDIAN MONTHLY HOMEOWNER COSTS -- 1990

	TUCSON	U.S.	ALBUQU.	LAS VEGAS	SAN ANTONIO
WITH MORTGAGE	\$615	\$737	\$741	\$801	\$585
WITHOUT MORTGAGE	190	209	198	198	178

HOUSING COSTS INCREASED FASTER THAN INCOME

Housing costs expressed as a percentage of total household income provide a measure of housing affordability. The Census Bureau defines housing costs for homeowners as the sum of the mortgage payment, property taxes, insurance, and utility costs. According to most mortgage institutions, housing costs create a financial burden when they exceed 28 percent of monthly household income.

OWNERS: Of the total Tucson housing units, 83,687 were owner-occupied in 1990, an increase of 12 percent in the decade. Most owners, or 53 percent, paid less than 20 percent of their monthly income for housing. However, many 1990 homeowners were paying a larger percentage of their income for housing than in 1980; homeowners paying 35 percent or more of their income increased by 29 percent.

RENTERS: For Tucson renters, the story is much the same: renters paid a greater proportion of their household income for rent in 1990. However, renters paying 35 percent or more of their household income for housing costs increased at double the rate of homeowners in this category. ■

Affordable housing

for Tucsonans

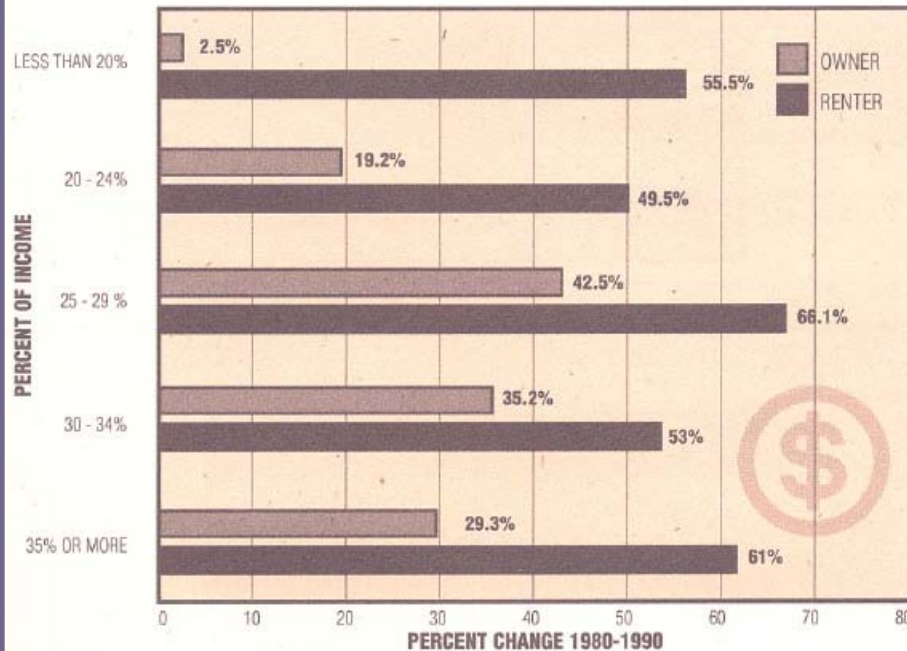
can be achieved both

by lower housing costs

and by higher income levels.

PERCENT OF CHANGE FOR SHELTER COSTS - OWNERS & RENTERS 1980 VS. 1990

UNIVERSE: OCCUPIED HOUSING UNITS



- The median contract rent in Tucson in 1990 was \$327, up from \$213 in 1980. For the nation, the increase in median contract rent was more dramatic: \$374 in 1990, up from \$198 in 1980.

- About one-third of all Tucson renters paid at least 35 percent of their household income for rent, 61 percent more than the previous decade.

*Tucson has a core
of long-term residents
together with a large segment
of the population which
is ever-in-motion.
It is difficult to assess
and serve the needs
of these frequent movers.*

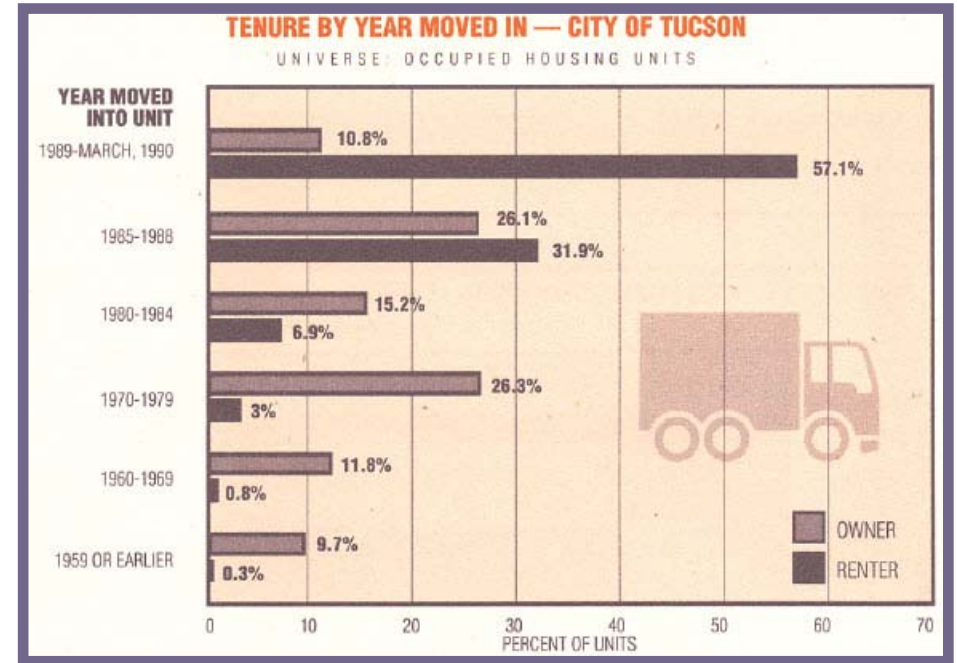
TUCSONANS CHANGE THEIR ADDRESS FREQUENTLY

The high level of mobility of Tucsonans is typical of Western Sunbelt cities. Students attending the University of Arizona, together with workers at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, winter visitors, and job seekers from the North and East create a high turnover rate for Tucson housing units.

One third of Tucson's residents in 1990 were at a different address the year before. Nationwide, the West was the most mobile region with 25 percent of all households classified as "recent movers" (those who had moved in the previous year), followed by residents in the South.

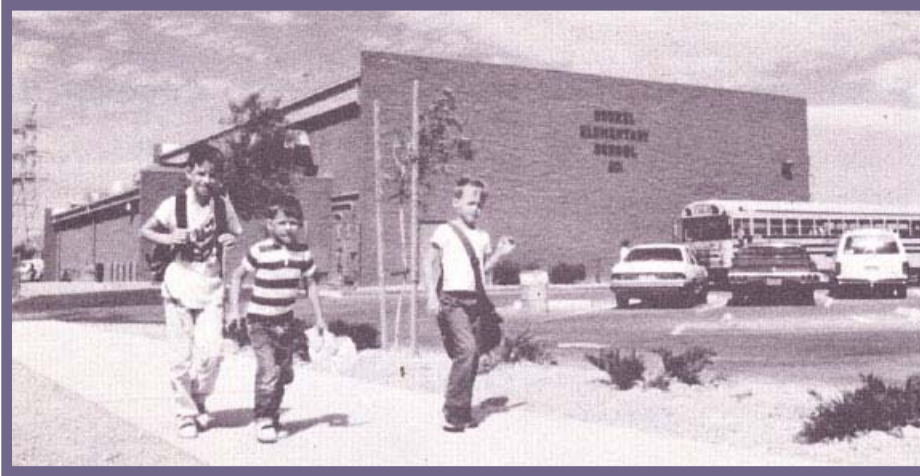
Nearly 62 percent of Tucson's residents had lived in their homes for a period of five years or less, compared with 49 percent for the nation. For other Western Sunbelt cities, the five-year-or-less figures were 54 percent in San Antonio, 59 percent in Albuquerque, and 70 percent in Las Vegas.

While much of the mobility is the result of newcomers from elsewhere in the State or Nation, movement within Pima County is also very high. Renters, in particular, demonstrated frequent moving patterns. ■



- About 33 percent of all Tucson residents had lived in their current home for less than one year. For the U.S., 21 percent of residents reported this characteristic.
- Less than half of Tucson's population has lived in their present home for more than ten years.

- Only 12 percent of Tucsonans had resided in their current homes for more than 21 years.

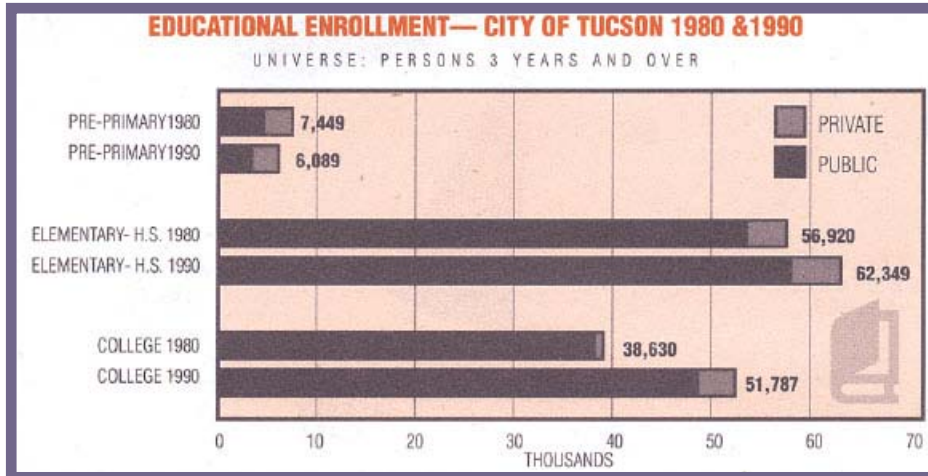


EDUCATIONAL ENROLLMENT NUMBERS INCREASE

Education is an important element in the daily life of Tucsonans: almost one-third of the population over age three was enrolled in school in 1990, with 5 percent in pre-primary schools, 52 percent in elementary and high school, and 43 percent in college. While this is an increase from 1980 of 17,225 persons in school, the proportion of the total population enrolled actually decreased by 2 percent.

Enrollment in private schools at all levels of education grew in the decade. In Tucson, about 8 percent of elementary and high school students were enrolled in private schools, similar to Albuquerque, Las Vegas and San Antonio, but lower than the 10 percent national figure. In particular, private college enrollment in Tucson increased by 308 percent but represents only 2 percent of the college level enrollment. The highest proportion of students in private educational facilities appeared at the preprimary level, with 45 percent of the total pre-primary enrollment. ■

*Population waves generate
fluctuating needs for
school facilities
creating opportunities
for joint use and re-use
of buildings and
school yards to meet
other community needs.*



- Educational enrollment in 1990 reflects the “Baby Bust” period, with an 18 percent decrease in preprimary school enrollment.
- College level enrollment increased by 34 percent in the decade.

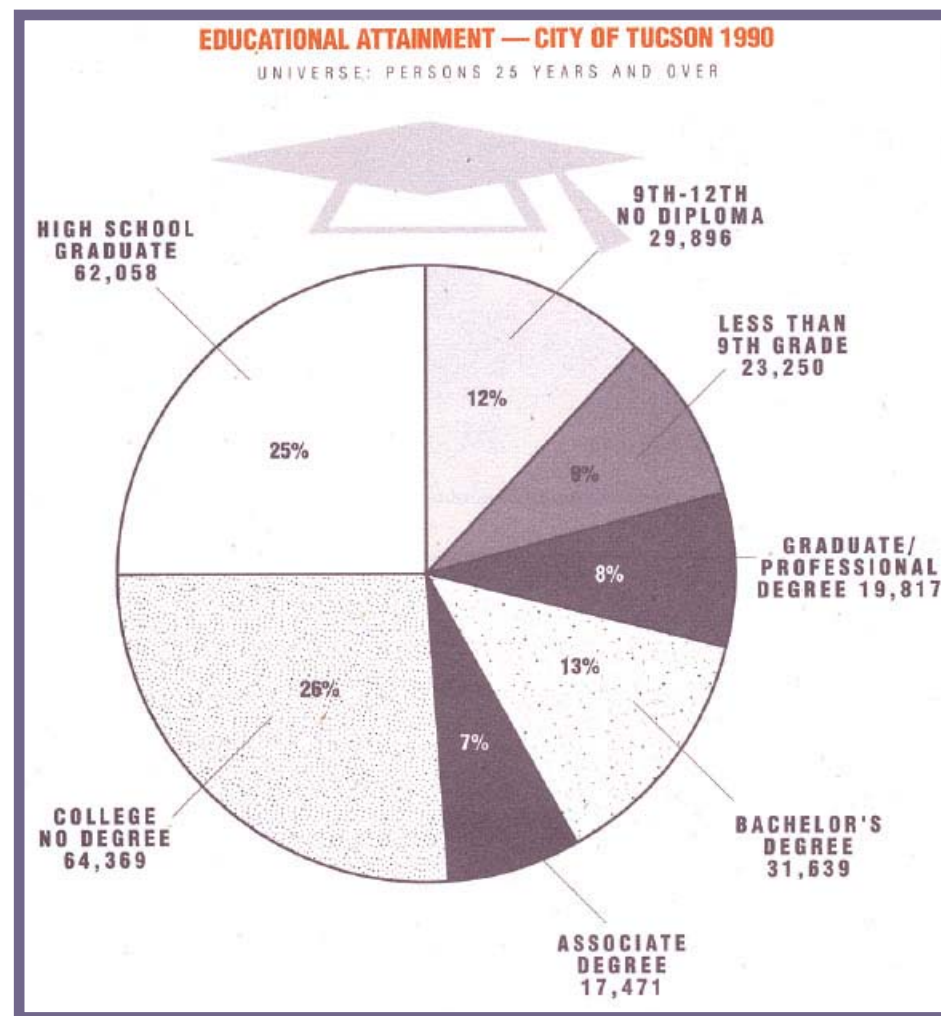
- Private school selection has increased at all educational levels in the past ten years, both in Tucson and the Nation.

*Innovative programs
and community support
are needed to keep students
enrolled in high school.*

HIGHER EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

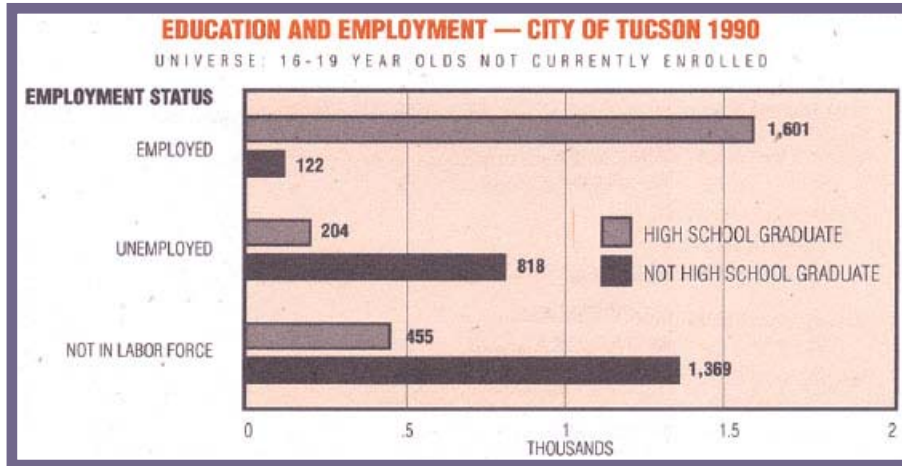
An overall increase in high school graduation during the decade is good news: 79 percent of City residents 25 years and over had achieved this hallmark, up from 73 percent in 1980, and higher than the national figure of 75 percent. Another favorable factor was that Tucsonans with less than 9th grade education decreased by 17 percent, while the proportion of the population leaving high school with no diploma showed little change. Percentages of Tucsonans with various levels of college education increased.

Approximately 21 percent of Tucson's population over 25 had less than a high school education in 1990; 25 percent had graduated from high school; 33 percent had some college; 7 percent had earned an associate degree, and 21 percent had a bachelor's or graduate degree. ■



■ Nearly 60 percent of Tucsonans over 25 had at least some college level education in 1990.

■ A Bachelor's or graduate degree had been earned by nearly 21 percent of Tucson's population over 25, slightly higher than the national figure of 20 percent.



EDUCATION AND JOBS: THE CRITICAL CONNECTION

Do your homework because it's true: graduation from high school does make a difference.

For those 16 to 19 year olds not enrolled in school who were in the labor force and had earned high school diplomas, 88 percent were employed, versus 3 percent employment for members of this group without high school degrees. Chances of employment for non-graduates were even less promising in 1990 than in 1980: employment rates for non-graduates decreased by 5 percent and increased for graduates by the same amount. ■

*In a rapidly changing,
global community,
higher levels of education
will be required.*

- Of Tucson's 16-19 year olds, 78 percent were enrolled in school in 1990, an improvement from 1980 when 71 percent were enrolled.

- For those 16-19 year olds who were not enrolled in school, 88 percent with high school diplomas were employed, versus a 13 percent employment rate for those without a high school degree.

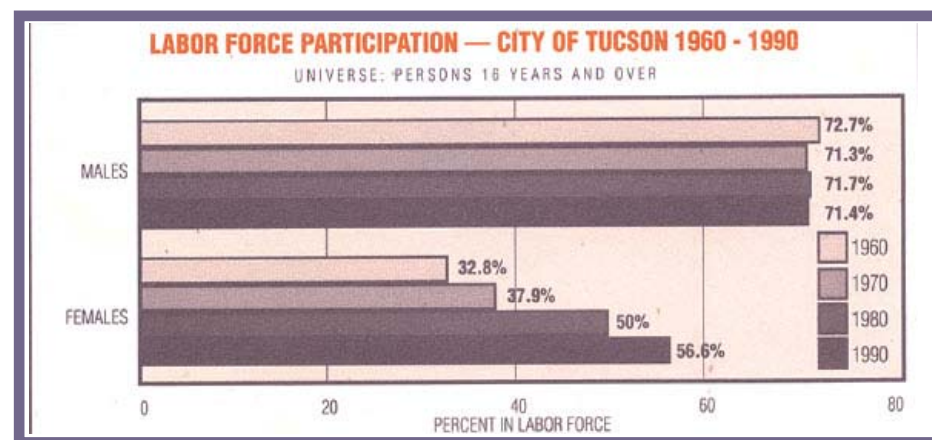
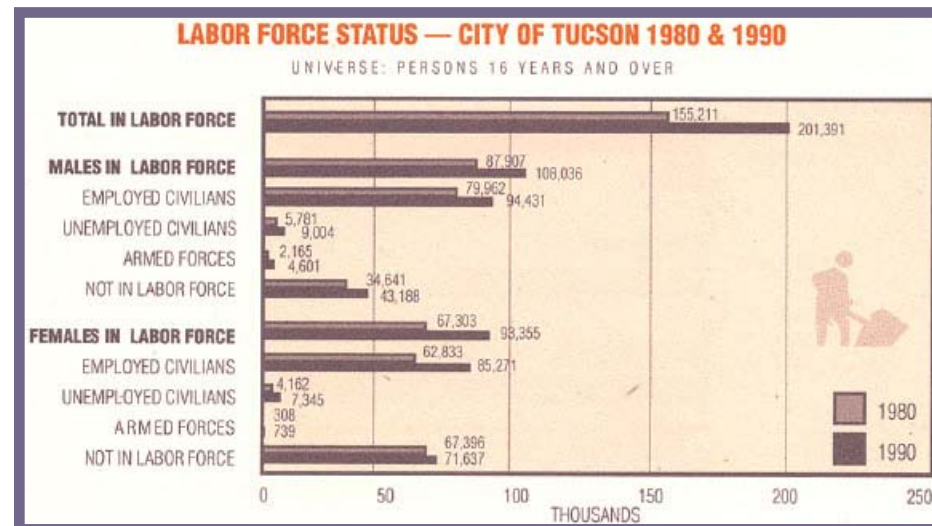
The trend in increased labor force participation by females represents both greater opportunity for women and greater need for their contributions to household income.

INCREASED NUMBERS IN TUCSON'S LABOR FORCE

According to the Census Bureau, the labor force is comprised of those who are employed and those unemployed who are actively seeking work. Tucson's 1990 employment figures for persons aged 16 years and over show an increase of 21 percent over 1980. There were 185,042 City residents employed at the time of the 1990 Census, representing 59 percent of the City's population aged 16 years and over.

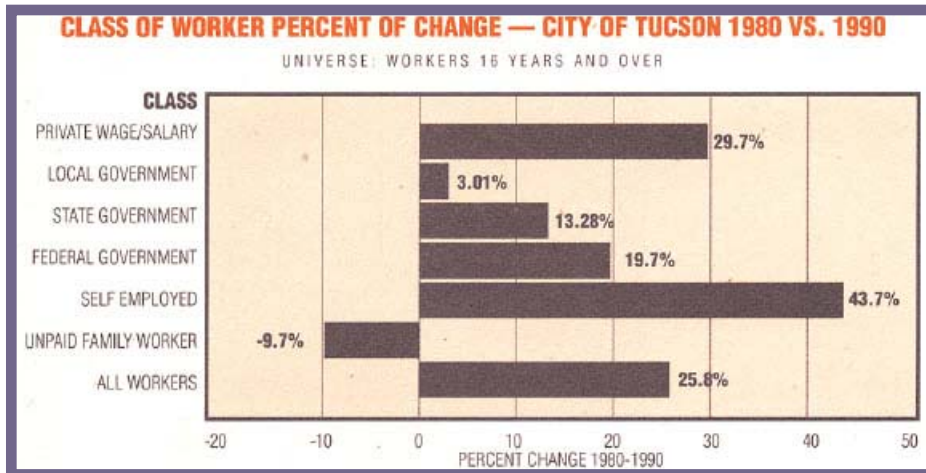
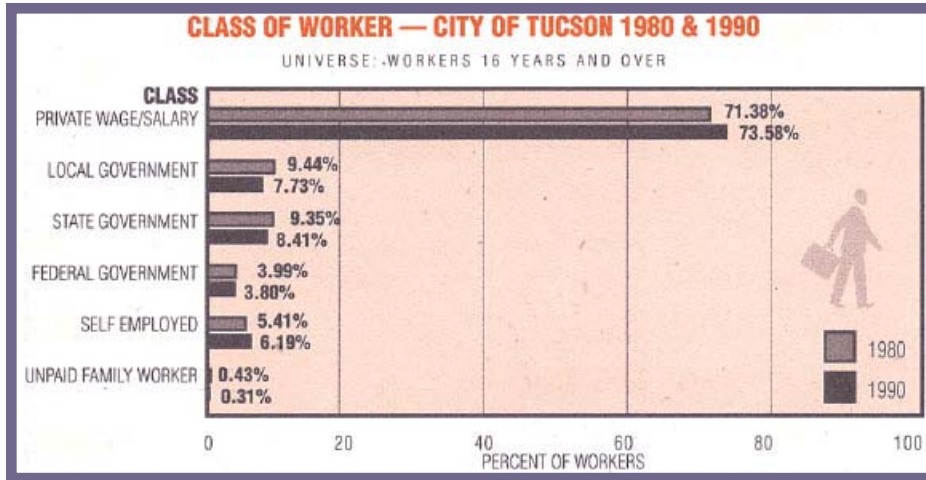
Participation in the labor force by Tucson's male population has been stable for several decades. For men over sixteen years of age, 71 percent were in the 1990 labor force, a slight decrease of 0.4 percent from 1980 figures. Over the same time period, the participation of Tucson women in the labor force has steadily increased, growing in the latest decade from 50 to 57 percent.

While the total increase in the City's population was 23 percent, the labor force increased nearly 30 percent, indicating that a greater proportion of the population were working or seeking work. However, the rate of unemployment also rose, from 6.5 percent in 1980 to 8.3 percent in 1990. ■



■ A growing number of Tucson women were in the labor force in 1990, about 57 percent of the City's female population 16 and over.

■ Unemployment rates were slightly lower for females (7.9 percent) than for males (8.7 percent), and higher for most minority groups.



PRIVATE SECTOR IS LARGEST TUCSON EMPLOYER

The next three pages explore highlights of employment for City residents during the decade. Census data regarding employment is presented in three different ways: by Class, Industry and Occupation.

Class of Worker categorizes workers according to the type of ownership of the employing organization: Private, Government, Self-Employed and Unpaid Family Workers.

Private wage-salary positions employed 74 percent of Tucson's residents. The most significant change in Class of Worker was an increase of 44 percent in self-employment from 1980 levels. ■

In Tucson,

the private sector

greatly outpaced

the public sector

in employment.

Opportunities for

self-employed

entrepreneurs increased

significantly.

■ Federal Government employment of City residents grew by 20 percent, while State Government grew by 13 percent and Local Government by 3 percent.

■ Numbers of Unpaid Family Workers experienced a decline of nearly 10 percent.

*As with the Nation,
far more service jobs than
goods-producing jobs
were created in Tucson
over the decade.
Service jobs pay lower wages
than manufacturing jobs,
leading to a decline in
both average income and
consumption.*

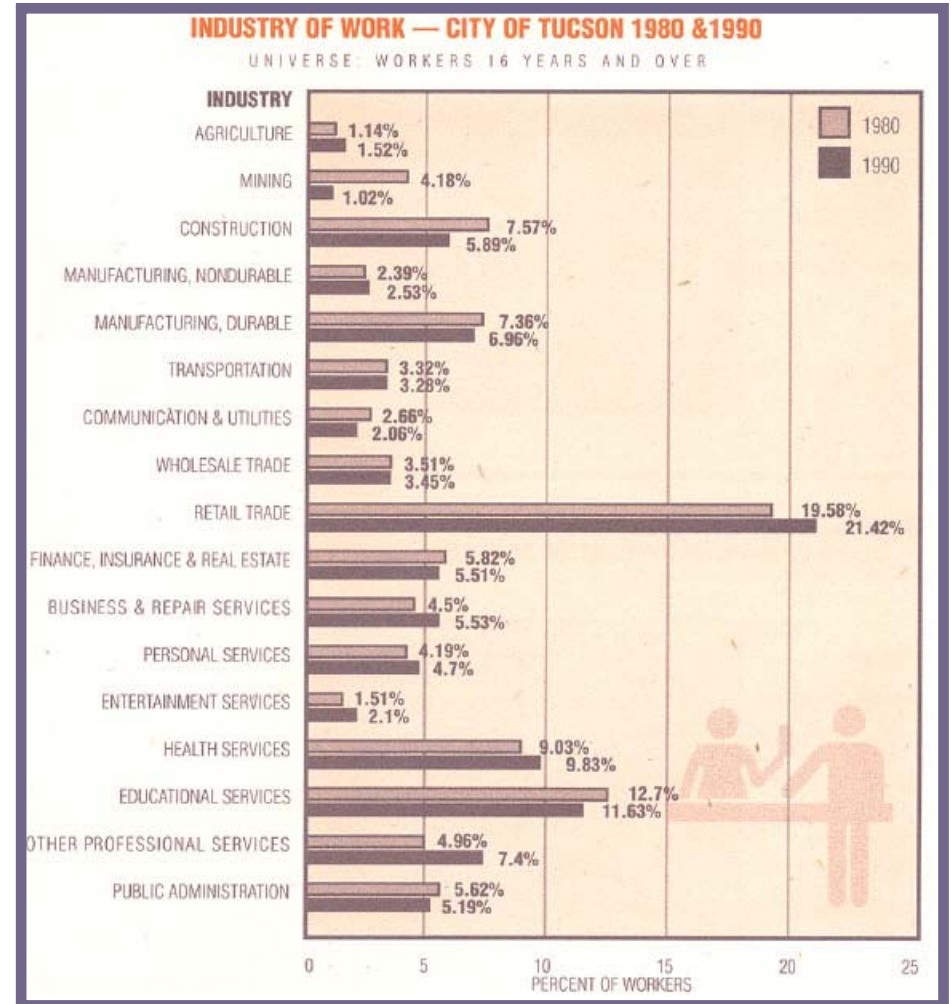
RETAIL TRADE CONTINUES TO PROVIDE THE MOST JOBS

Industry of Work information relates to the kind of business conducted by a person's employing organization, such as Professional, Construction and Retail Trade.

Tucson was not so different from the nation, where nearly one-half of all persons who moved into a job during 1987 and 1988 entered into the Retail Trade or the Professional and Related Services groups.

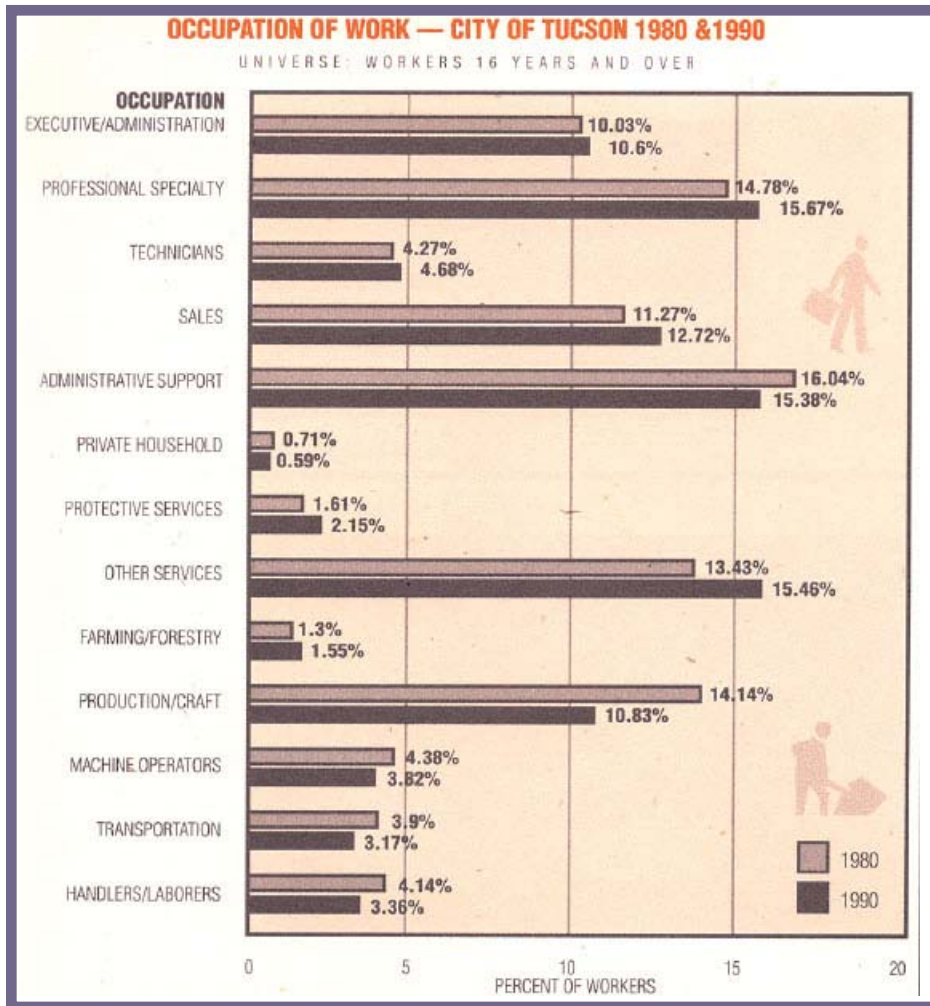
Eight industry categories experienced growth greater than Tucson's total 1980-1990 job growth, led by the Other Professional and Related Services group (88 percent growth to 13,294 jobs). Examples of this group are doctors, social workers and architects.

The three industries exhibiting declining numbers of employees were Mining (-69 percent), Communications and Public Utilities (-2 percent), and Construction (-2 percent). ■



■ Retail Trade was the leading industrial group for Tucson residents, with a 38 percent increase in the decade to a total of 38,488 jobs.

■ Other Professional and Related Services grew by 88 percent in the last decade.



NEARLY ALL OCCUPATIONS SAW JOBS INCREASE

Occupation of Work describes the kind of work the person does on the job, such as Sales, Machine Operator or Technician.

Three occupations describe over 45 percent of Tucson workers, with about equal numbers in each group: Professional Specialty, Other Services, and Administrative Support. Examples of Professional Specialty occupations are architects, teachers, lawyers. Other services occupations are food counter workers, janitors and child care workers. Administrative Support jobs includes computer equipment operators, clerks and receptionists.

Only one occupational group declined in numbers of workers: Production, Craft and Repair (down 4 percent), which reflects the loss of jobs in electronic and aerospace companies. ■

As Tucson's

economic base

expands and changes,

occupational training

will be needed to

match workers

with new jobs.

■ Professional Specialty, Other Services, and Administrative Support occupations each included about 15 percent of working Tucsonans in 1990.

■ The occupational group experiencing the greatest gain was Protective Services which increased 68 percent.

*Many Tucsonans
had a more
difficult time
in the 1980s
making ends meet.*

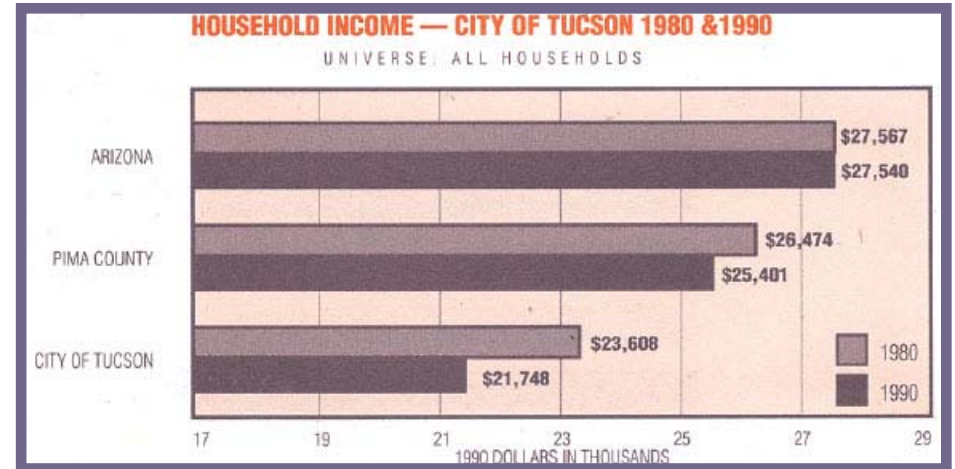
FOR RICHER OR POORER...

Census Bureau income data is measured by family, household, and per capita. However, household income does not reflect the number of persons within a household.

After adjusting for inflation, nearly all types of income decreased during the decade, except in households with Social Security. Households with farm and other self-employment income sustained greater losses than households with income from wages and salaries.

Adjusted for inflation, Tucson household incomes decreased in the decade by almost 8 percent, to a median income of \$21,748 per household. Decreases in Tucson family income portrayed a loss of about 7 percent in purchasing power, with \$27,208 the median family income. By comparison, the national family median was \$35,225; San Antonio was \$26,885; Albuquerque was \$33,746; and Las Vegas was \$35,300.

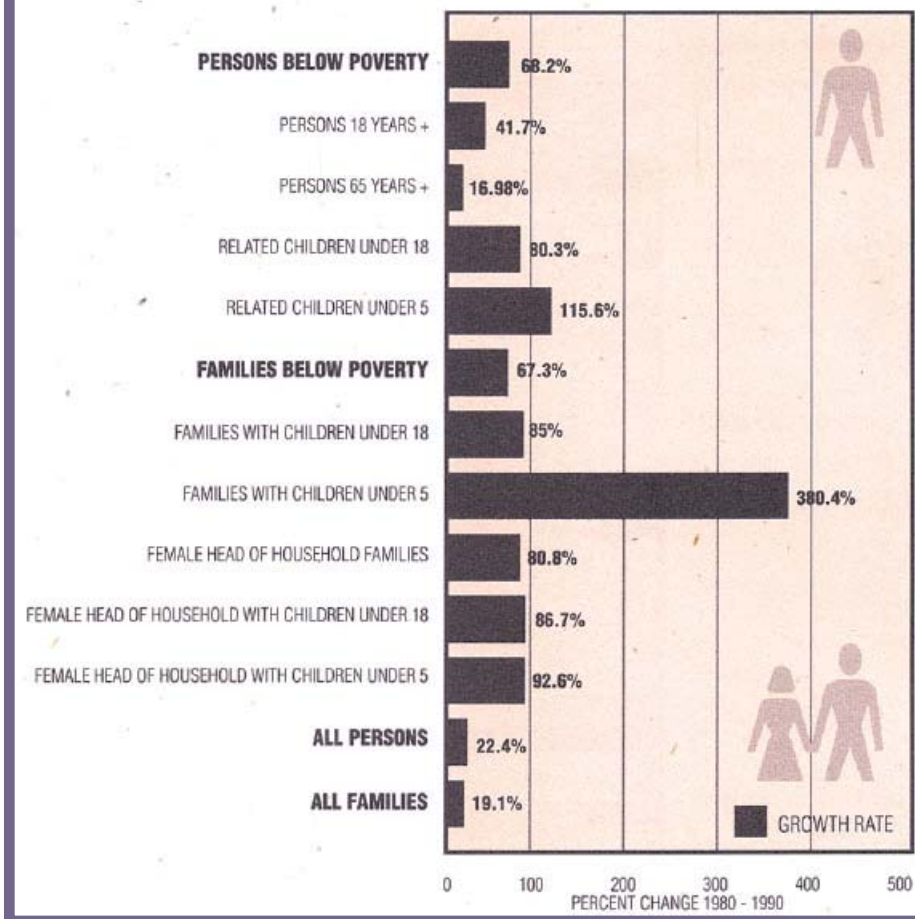
The mean income for a Tucson married couple with children under 18 was \$35,682 in 1990. And for female householders with children, the mean income is only 40 percent of that figure, or \$14,595. ■



■ Nationally, married couples with a single income decreased from 21 percent of all households in 1980 to 8 percent in 1990.

■ Only households with Social Security income measured a gain, increasing 14 percent over 1980 figures.

POVERTY STATUS PERCENT OF CHANGE — CITY OF TUCSON 1980 VS. 1990



...WHICH WAY DID WE GO?

Poverty status is measured at the household level and considers the number of persons in a household. As expected, the loss of income in the decade also brought an increase in persons in poverty.

According to the Census Bureau, poverty status is derived from a nutritionally adequate economy food plan, designed in 1961 by the Department of Agriculture. At that time, a survey of food consumption by families of three or more persons determined that one third of their income was spent on food. Thus, the Census Bureau determines the poverty threshold based on three times the cost of the economy food plan. Adjusted for 1990 dollars, the poverty level is \$12,674 for a family of four.

Slightly over 20 percent of all persons in the City were below the poverty level in 1990, up from about 15 percent in 1980. By contrast, about 13 percent of the U.S. population was below the poverty level in 1990, with corresponding figures of 14 percent for Albuquerque, 12 percent for Las Vegas, and 23 percent for San Antonio.

Poverty status for Tucson children under 18 years old jumped from just under 17 percent of these children in 1980 to nearly 26 percent in 1990. For those 65 years and older, the percentage living in poverty declined from about 14 percent to 12 percent. ■

Poverty hit hardest

at the young--both children

and their parents--

those most vulnerable

and least likely to have

the resources to persevere.

- Children under the age of 18 of every racial group made up a large number of those in poverty.
- The largest increase of those falling under the poverty level occurred for families with children under the age of five.

- In the 65 years and older category, twice as many females as males were below the poverty level in 1990.
- Just over 33 percent of female head of household families were living in poverty and nearly 60 percent had children under six years of age.

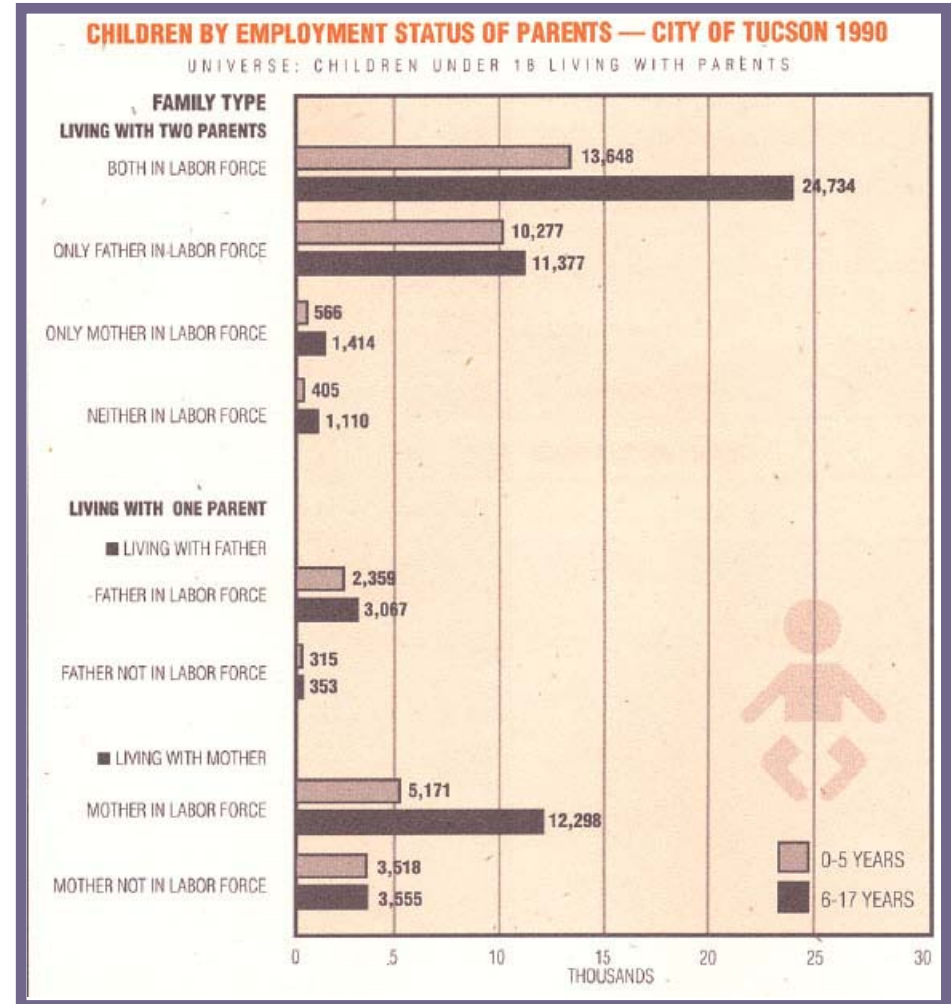
Support services for children will be a continuing and growing need, especially for those in one-parent households.

MANY TUCSON CHILDREN HAVE WORKING PARENTS

The 1990 Census reports that over 13,000 Tucson preschool children had both parents in the labor force, and over 7,000 have their single parent working. These numbers increase significantly with school age children: 25,000 had two working parents, and over 15,000 had a single working parent.

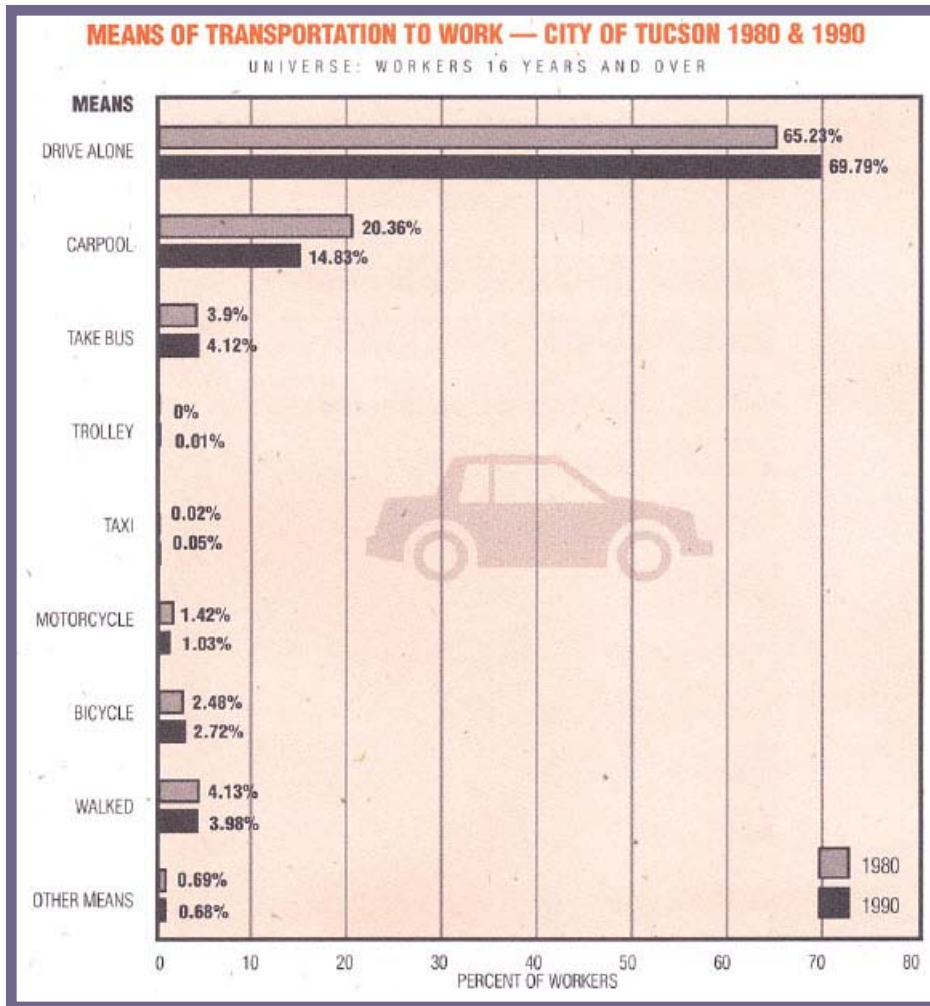
Close to one-third of Tucson children under 18 years old lived in one-parent households, about one of every three Tucson children. About 82 percent, or 22,201 of these children, were with their mothers.

Of the single-parent mothers with preschool children, 60 percent were in the labor force, rising to 78 percent of all single mothers with school-age children. For single-parent fathers, slightly less than 90 percent were in the labor force, regardless of the age of the children. ■



- About 20,000 of Tucson's preschool children, and 50,000 school-age children had their parents in the labor force.
- One third of Tucson children were in single parent households, 82 percent with their mothers.

- Nearly 62 percent of all Tucson mothers with children under six were in the labor force; as well as 76 percent of mothers with school age children were working. National figures are 58 percent and 73 percent respectively.



MOST OF US STILL DRIVE ALONE - IF WE HAVE A CAR

The love affair between people and their cars continues: driving alone to work was even more popular in 1990 than ten years earlier and was the choice of about 70 percent of the City's residents, up from 65 percent in 1980. By comparison, 73 percent of U.S. commuters drove alone, along with 78 percent in Albuquerque, 74 percent in Las Vegas, and 73 percent in San Antonio—all higher than the Tucson figure.

The selection of "alternate modes" of transportation to work increased slightly in Tucson. A few more commuters used bicycles and buses, and alternate modes remained the choice of about 12.5 percent of Tucson working residents. Due largely to cutbacks in the workforce for many of Tucson's largest employers in the late 1980s, use of carpools decreased but attracted about 15 percent of the City's commuters.

At least one car was a possession of 88 percent of Tucson occupied households in 1990. The remaining 12 percent of Tucson's households were without any vehicle, an increase from about 10 percent in 1980. These households are largely dependent on public transportation alternatives. ■

*Since World War II,
suburban lifestyles in
sunbelt cities have been
supported by a supply of
comparatively cheap roads,
cheap gasoline, and
affordable private vehicles.
In the face of increased costs
all of the above,
the taste for private
automobiles continues.*

■ Commuting to work alone in a private vehicle continued to be the most popular choice for 70 percent of Tucson's workers.

■ Alternate modes were used by about 12.5 percent of City residents to get to work, and 15 percent carpoled.

■ Buses accommodated 7,000 daily commuters in 1990.

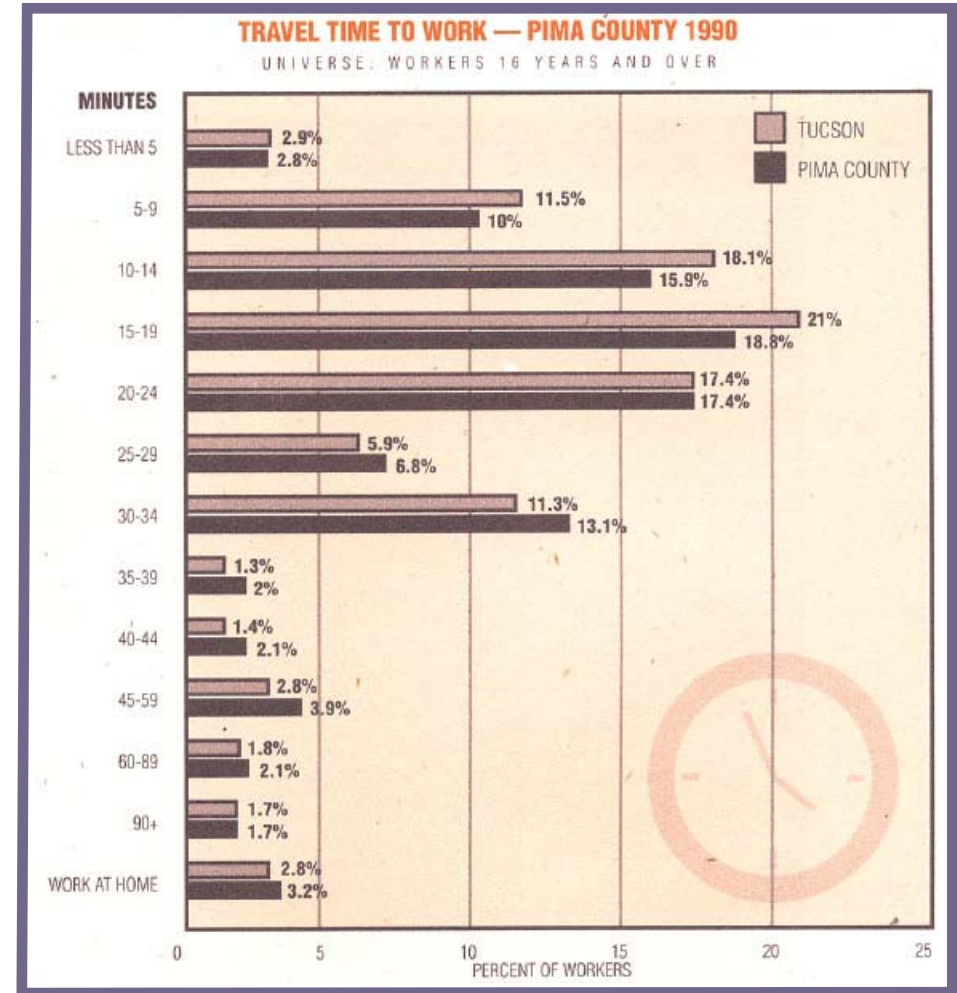
GETTING AROUND TOWN

*Future land use patterns
and transportation modes
will determine tomorrow's
roadway needs.*

COMMUTING TO WORK: HOW LONG IT TOOK...

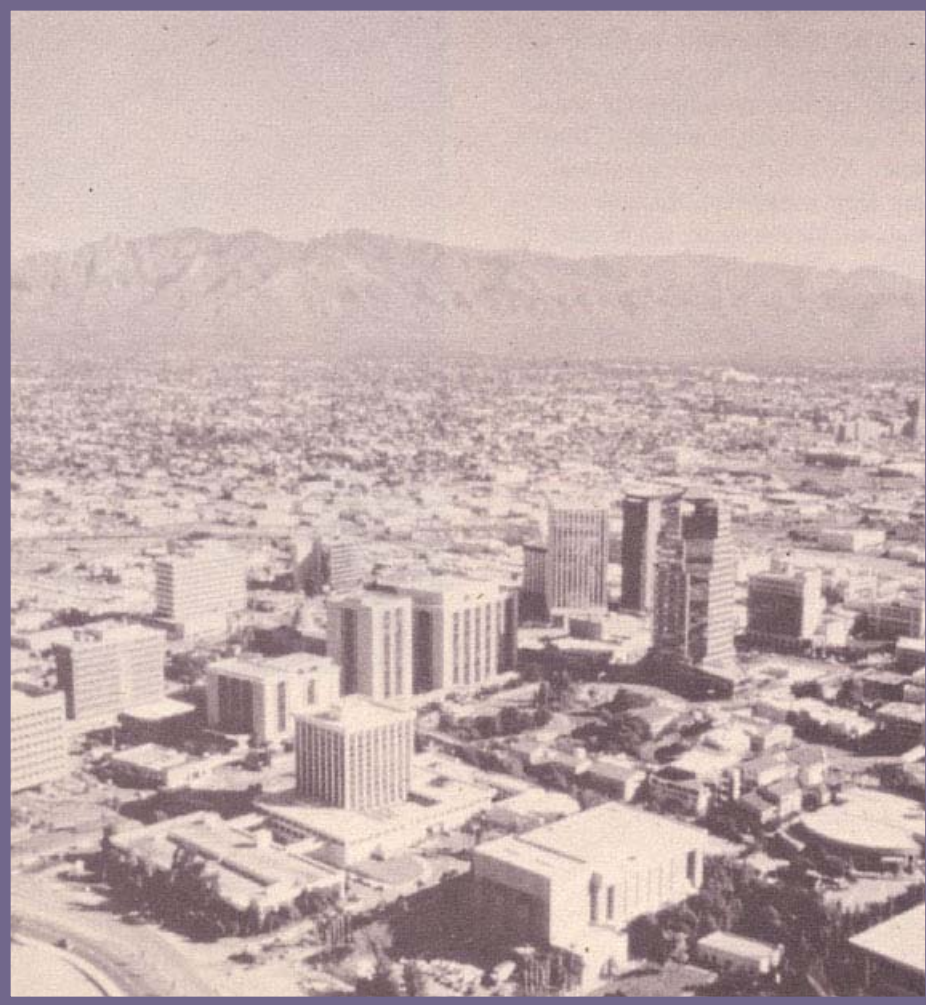
Even though there were a good many more of us in Tucson by 1990, the average time it took to get to work in 1990 remained about the same as a decade earlier--20 minutes. New roadways and many road improvement projects that were accomplished in the decade helped us to avoid spending any more time behind the wheel. The average commute time in the United States was about 22 minutes.

But different travel directions have emerged: the popular east-west commute pattern of an earlier Tucson has been supplemented by a north-south pattern, responding to new residential development located in the north and northwest parts of the metropolitan area. ■



- The average trip to work in Tucson took 20 minutes in 1990 -- no change from a decade earlier.
- Ninety percent of workers reached their jobs within a half hour.

- Many left early in the morning to get to work: 25 percent left between 5:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m., and another 43 percent left between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.



...AND WHERE WE WENT

Virtually unchanged from the 1980 Census, most of us (96 percent) worked inside of Pima County in 1990. About 85 percent of employed City residents and 65 percent of all employed County residents were working inside the City. Very few City or County residents - about 2 and 4 percent respectively - traveled to jobs outside of the Tucson region.

Over 5000 Tucson residents worked at home in 1990, double the 1980 figures. Those working at home represented about 3 percent of the City's workforce. ■

Tucson is the economic engine which drives the economy of Pima County.

It has the diversity of

land uses and

densities intrinsic

to a metropolitan city.

■ The great majority of the region's jobs and services were located within the City's boundaries in 1990.

■ Fifteen percent of employed City residents worked elsewhere in Pima County, while two-thirds of employed County residents had jobs in the City.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

*The City of Tucson has grown from an Old Pueblo with a rich history into a contemporary community with a healthy future...built on community traditions, values, and resources which represent the “spirit” of Tucson, balancing these with the need for economic growth and change...**

CHANGES IN THE 1980'S AND A LOOK AHEAD

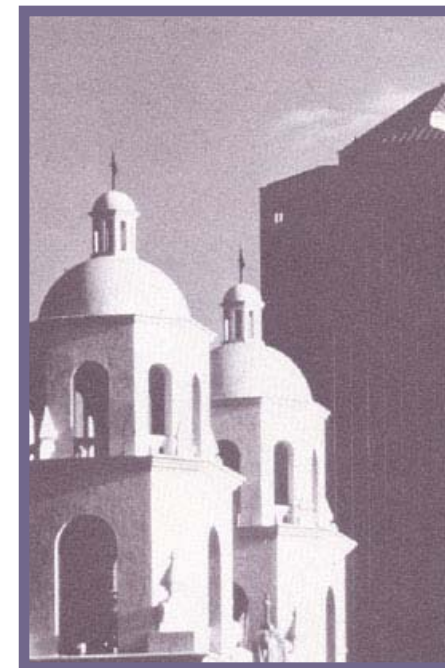
This booklet has touched on some of the highlights from the 1990 Census regarding the residents of Tucson. It is interesting to reflect on the City's changes in the last ten years, and challenging to predict changes that may occur in the next decade.

In many ways, Tucson has followed national trends of the 1980s: the average age of the population of the United States is growing older, just as it is in Tucson and in Arizona. Traditional families are becoming fewer and working moms are commonplace everywhere. Many new job opportunities in Tucson are in service industries rather than in manufacturing or other primary industries, as is true in the rest of the country.

But in other ways, Tucson was unique during the decade. Its population grew at more than twice the national rate. Tucson is more diverse ethnically, with a Hispanic population three times larger than the nation's. We have a higher proportion of folks 65 years and older. Tucsonans move frequently, and are more likely to rent housing than the U.S. as a whole. A greater proportion of the people here have college degrees. And while income levels are lower than the country's average, so too is the cost of housing.

The booklet presents a picture of a Tucson that no longer exists: the Census was completed in April, 1990, over two years ago. Changes are constantly taking place, and we can be quite sure that the picture of Tucson in January, 2000 will be very different than today. There will almost certainly be more people, and the average age will be about 36, four years older than 1990. The workforce will be larger and probably include more women. Other characteristics are harder to predict but, hopefully, incomes and educational levels will be higher, and the average commute will still take 20 minutes.

Many forces will help to shape the next decade. Some are external to the City, such as national and global economic factors. But to some extent, the City's future will be determined locally, by the choices of residents, the decisions of community leaders, and the commitment of every citizen. The results of the 2000 Census will be a reflection of the decisions which are being made today. ■



* From "Vision: A Guide for the Future of the City of Tucson" adopted by Mayor and Council in May, 1989. Copies are available from the Planning Department, Third Floor, City Hall, 255 West Alameda Street. Phone: 791-4505.

■ More information about the Census of 1990 is available from the Planning Department.